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(54) **RNA EXPRESSION CASSETTE AND CELLS FOR MAKING ALPHAVIRUS PARTICLES**

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A01N 63/00 (2006.01)
C12N 7/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC *C12N 7/00* (2013.01); *C12N 2770/36143* (2013.01); *C12N 2770/36152* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 424/93.2
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Strategies for increasing the productivity of alphavirus packaging cell lines and of reducing the possibility that replication competent virus may be generated during large scale production of recombinant alphavirus particles.

13 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets

FIG. 1

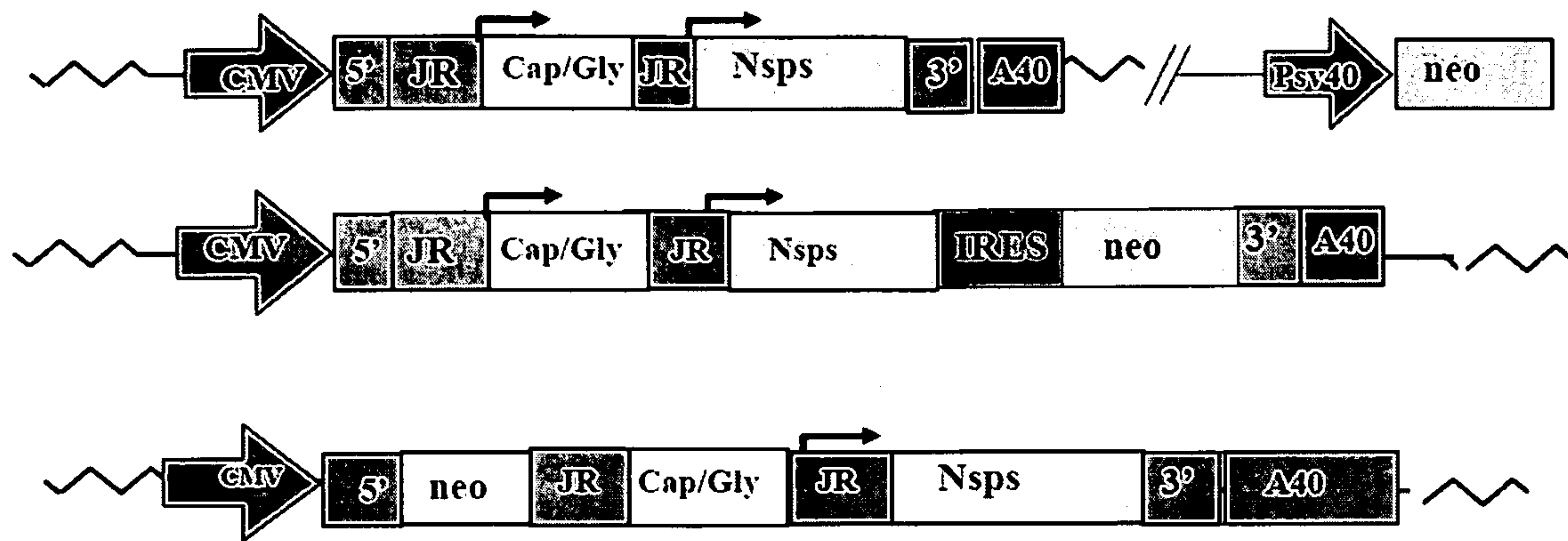


FIG. 2

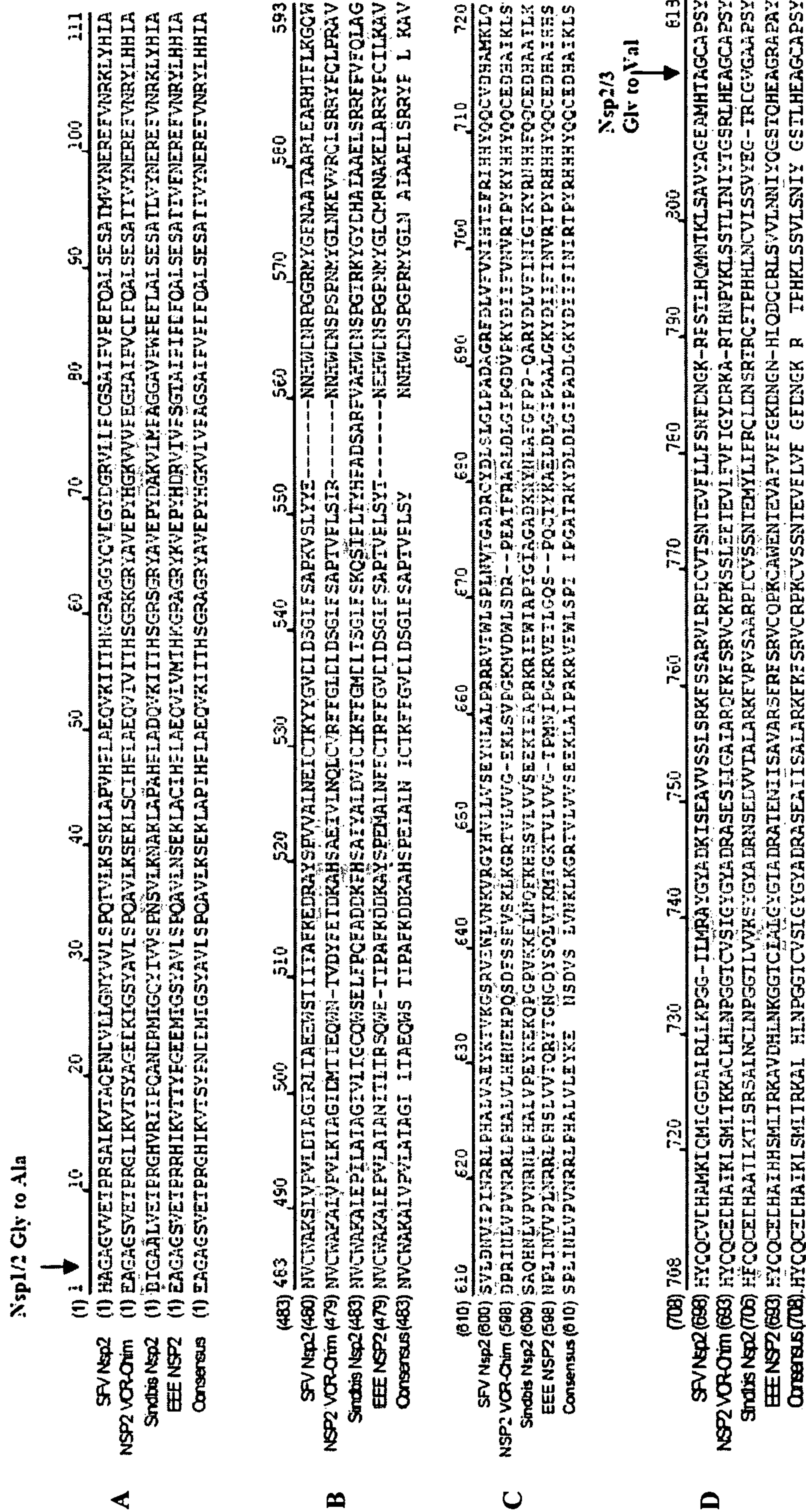


FIG. 3

3' end DH-Scap: KGKTIKTTPEGTEEW↓
 5' end of DH-Sgly: MSAAPLVTAMCLLGNVSF
 RCV: KGKTIKTTPEGTEEW↓SAAPLVTAMCLLGNVSF

FIG. 4

	(1)	1	10	20	30	40	50	60	76		
Sindbis Virus Capsid	(1)	-MNRGFENMLGRRPFPAPAMWRPFRRRQAAPMPARNGLASQIQCLTTAVSALVIGQATRPQEFPRPREPPR-----									
SFV Capsid	(1)	MNYIPTQTFYGRWRPFPAPARFWLQATPVAVVVP-DFQAQCMQCLISAVNALTMRQNAIAFARPPKPKKKK-----									
EEE Capsid	(1)	MFPYPTLNYPFMAPINPMAYRDPNFPFRWRPFRP--PLAAQIEDLRRSIANLTLKQAPNPFAGFPKPKR-----									
VEE Capsid	(1)	-----MFPFQPMYFQPMFYRNFFAAPRRWFPRTPDPLAMQVQELTRSMANLTFKQRRDAFFEGFPKPKKREAP									
Consensus	(1)	M FTENE RRRPIPPPAYR FP RRR APMRP FLAAQIQCLTRAVANLTIKQRA AFP GPPKPKK									
	(77)	77	90	100	110	120	130	140	152		
Sindbis Virus Capsid	(71)	-----QKKQAPKQFPKPKPKTQEKKKKQPAKPK----PGKRFQRMALKLEADRLFDVKNEDGDVIGHALAMEGK									
SFV Capsid	(72)	-----TTKEPKTKQPKKINGKTCQQKKKDKQADKKKKKPGKRRMCMKIENDCIFEVKHEG-KVTGYACLVGDK									
EEE Capsid	(70)	-----KEAPSLSLRRKKRFPFPKPKKPK----PGKRFQRMCMKLESDKTFPIMLNG-QVNGYACVVGG									
VEE Capsid	(72)	QKQKGGGQKFKKKNQCKKKAKTGFENPKAQSGNKKKPNKPKGKRQRMVMKLESDKTFPIMLEG-KINGYACVVGGK									
Consensus	(77)	Q KEKPKQ EKKK KTONFKKQKPKPK KPGKRFQRMCMKLESDKTFPIMLEG KVNGYACVVGGK									
	(153)	153	H141 ↓	D147 ↓	170	D163 ↓	190	200	210	228	
Sindbis Virus Capsid	(136)	VMKPLHVKGSTIDHPVLSKIKFTKSSAYDMEFAQLFVNMRSEAFYTYSEHPEGFYNWHHGAVCYSGGRFTIPRGVGG									
SFV Capsid	(140)	VMKPAHVKGVIDNADLAKLAFKKS SKYDLECAQIFVHMRSEASKYTHEKPEGHYNWHHGAVCYSGGRFTIPTGAGK									
EEE Capsid	(132)	VFKPLHVESRIDNEQLAATIKLKKASIYDLEYGDFVQCMKSDTLQYTSKPKPGFYNWHHGAVCYENNRFTVPRGVGG									
VEE Capsid	(147)	LFRPMHVEGKIDNDVLAALKTKKASKYDLEYADVQNMRAITFKYTHEKPGGYYSWHHGAVCYENGRFTVPRGVGA									
Consensus	(153)	VMKPLHVKGKIDNDVLAALKFKKASKYDLEYAQVFNMRSDTFKYTSEKPEGFYNWHHGAVCYSNGRFTIPRGVGG									
		229		S215 ↓			281		W264 ↓		
Sindbis Virus Capsid	(212)	EGDSGRPIIMDNSGRVVAIVLGGADGTRTALSVVWTWNSKGKTIKTTPEGTEEW									
SFV Capsid	(216)	EGDSGRPIFDNKGRVVAIVLGGANEGSRTALSVVWTWN-KDMVTRVTPEGSEEW									
EEE Capsid	(208)	KGDSGRPILDNKGRVVAIVLGGVNEGSRTALSVVWTWNQKGVTVKDTPEGSEFW									
VEE Capsid	(223)	KGDSGRPILDNQGRVVAIVLGGVNEGSRTALSVMWNEKGVTVKTPENCEQW									
Consensus	(229)	KGDSGRPILDNKGRVVAIVLGGVNEGSRTALSVVWTWN KGVTVK TPEGSEEW									

FIG. 5A

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (23) TTGAAGAGGATTACCAATTTCTGGGGCTCTCCAGGCTCCTTTCCCTCAGTTGAGGCTAAACAGGTGACTGACAATGATCACGCCAACGCAAGAGC 125
 VEE Nsp1-4 (23) TCGAGGAAGACAGCCCATTCCTCAGAGCTTTGCAGCGGAGCTTCCCGCAGTTTGAGGTAGAAGCCAAGCAGGTCACTGATAATGACCATGCTAATGCCAGAGC
 Consensus (23) T GA GA GA CCATT CT G GCT T CAGCG CTT CC CAGTT GA GT GA GC AA CAGGT ACTGA AATGA CA GC AA GC AGAGC 110

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (126) 126 140 150 160 170 180 190 200 210 228
 VEE Nsp1-4 (126) ATTACCCATCTCGCCTCAAAGCTCATTGAGACAGAGTCCCTCTGACACCATCCCTGGATAICGGTAGCGCCCGGAGGCGCAIGTACAGCAACAC
 VEE Nsp1-4 (126) GTTTTCGCATCTGGCTTCAAAACTGATCGAAACGGAGTGGACCCATCCGACACGATCCTTGACATTTGAAAGTGGCCCGCCCGCAGAAATGTATTCTAAGCAC
 Consensus (126) TT CATCT GC TCAAA CT AT GA AC GA GT GA CC TC GACAC ATCCT GA AT GG AG GC CC GC G G AIGTA AA CAC 210

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (229) 229 240 250 260 270 280 290 300 310 320 331
 VEE Nsp1-4 (229) AAATACCACTGCATATGCCCTATGCCCTGCGCAGAGGACCCAGATAGGCTATACAATAACGCCACGAAACTCAAGAAGAAATTCGAAAGAGATCACCGACAAAG
 VEE Nsp1-4 (229) AAGTATCATGTATCTGTCGGAAGATCGGACAGATGTATAAGTATGCAACTAAGCTGAAGAAAACCTGTAAGAAAATTAAGTAAAGG
 Consensus (229) AA TA CA TG AT TG CC ATG G TG GC GA GA CC GA AG T TA AA TA GC AC AA CT AAGAA AA TG AA GA AT AC GA AA G 320

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (332) 332 340 350 360 370 380 390 400 410 420 434
 VEE Nsp1-4 (332) AGCTCGATAAAAAGATGAAAGAACTTGGGCTGTGATGCCGATCCCGATCCGATCTTGAGACAGAGACGATGTGCTTGCACGATGATGAGAGTTGCCGCTATGAGGG
 VEE Nsp1-4 (332) AATTGGACAAGAAAATGAAGGAGCTCGCCCGCTCATGAGCGACCTGACCTGGAAACTGAGACTATGTCCCTCCACGACGAGTGGTGTGCTACCGAAG
 Consensus (332) A T GA AA AA ATGAA GA CT GC GC GT ATG CGA CC GA CT GA AC GAGAC ATGTGC T CACGA GA GAG TG CGCTA GA GG 420

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (435) 435 440 450 460 470 480 490 500 510 520 537
 VEE Nsp1-4 (435) CCAGGTGGCGGTGTACCAGGACGCTATGCAGTAGATGGGCCAACTTCTTTTACCATCAAGCTAACAAGGTGTCGGGTGCTTATTTGGATCGGGTTTIGAT
 VEE Nsp1-4 (435) GCAAGTCCGTGTTTACCAGGATGTATACGGGTTGACGGACCCGACAAAGTCTCTATCACCAGCAATAAGGGAGTTAGAGTCCCTACTGGATAGGCTTTGAC
 Consensus (435) CA GT GC GT TACCAGGA GT TA GC GT GA GG CC AC TCT TA CA CAAGC AA AA GG GT G GTCGC TA TGGAT GG TTTGA 520

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (538) 538 550 560 570 580 590 600 610 620 630 640
 VEE Nsp1-4 (538) ACTACACCATTCATGTTCAAGAACTGGGCGGCTACCCAGCTACAGCACAAATTTGGCAGACGAGCGGTGTTAACGGCACCGGAATATCGGCGTGTGT
 VEE Nsp1-4 (538) ACCACCCCTTTTATGTTTAAAGAACTTGGCTGGAGCATATCCATCATCTACCAACTGGCCCGACCAACCCTGTTAACCGCTCGTAAACATAGGCCCTATGCA
 Consensus (538) AC AC CC TT ATGTT AAGAA TGGC GG GC TA CCA TAC AC AA TGGGC GACGA AC GTGTTAACGGC CG AA AT GG CT TG 630

FIG. 5B

(641) 641 650 660 670 680 690 700 710 720 730 743
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (641) CATCTGACGTAATGGAACGAGCAGAGGAAATGAGTATCTTGGCCAAAATAACCTCAAGCCCTCAAATAATGTGTGTTTTCTGTGGGTCAACCATCTA
 VEE Nsp1-4 (641) GCTCTGACGTTATGGAGCGGTACGTAGAGGGATGTCATCTTAGAAAAGAGTATTGAAAACCATCCAAACAATGTTCTATTCTCTGTGGCTCGACCATCTA
 Consensus (641) TCTGACGT ATGGA CG G GAGG ATG AT T G AA AA TA T AA CC TC AA AATGT CT TT TCTGT GG TC ACCATCTA
 (744) 744 750 760 770 780 790 800 810 820 830 846
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (744) TCATGAGAAAGAGACCTGCTCCGGAGTTGGCACCTGCCAGCGTCTTTCACCTGGCGGCAAGCAGAAATTATACGTGTAGGTGGAAAACCATCGTCTCTTGT
 VEE Nsp1-4 (744) CCACGAGAAAGAGGACTTACTGAGGAGCTGGCACCTGCCGTCGTATTTCACTTACGTGGCAAGCAAAAATTACACATGTGGGTGTGAGACTATAGTTAGTTGC
 Consensus (744) CA GAGAAGAG GAC T CT GGAG TGGCACCTGCC GT TTTCAC T CG GGCAAGCA AATTA AC TGT GGIG GA AC AT GT TTG

(847) 847 860 870 880 890 900 910 920 930 949
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (847) GACGGATACGTGGTGAAGCGGATGGCCATCTCCCGGGGTGTACGGGAAGCCGAGCGGGTATGCTGGACAATGCATCGGGAGGGATTCCCTTGTGTAAGG
 VEE Nsp1-4 (847) GACGGTACGTGCTTAAAGAATAGCTATCAGTCCAGGCTGTATGGAAAGCCTTCAGGCTATGCTGCTACGATGCACCGCGAGGGATTCCTTGTGCTGCAAAAG
 Consensus (847) GACGG TACGT GT AA G AT GC ATC CC GG CTGTA GGAAGCC GG TATGCTGC AC ATGCA CG GAGGGATTC T TGCTG AA G

(950) 950 960 970 980 990 1000 1010 1020 1030 1040 1052
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti (950) TCACCGATACGTTGAATGGTGAAGGGTGTCTCTTCTGTAAGCATAATGTCCTCCCGCAACCTCTCGGATCAGATGACCGGTATCTGGCCACCGACGCTGTC
 VEE Nsp1-4 (950) TGACAGACACATTTGAACGGGGAGGGTCTCTTTTCCCGTGTGCAAGTATGTCAGCTACATTTGTGTGACCAAAATGACTGGCATACTGGCAACAGATGTCAG
 Consensus (950) T AC GA AC TTGAA GG GAGAGGGT TC TTTCC GT TGCAC TATGT CC GC AC T TG GA CA ATGAC GG AT CTGGC AC GA GT

(1053) 1053 1060 1070 1080 1090 1100 1110 1120 1130 1140 1155
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti(1053) CGCCGATGACGCCCAAAAGCTGCTCGTGGCCCTTAATCAGAGGATCGTGGTAAACGGGAGAACCCCAAGAAACACAATACTATGAAAAAATCTGCTTCCA
 VEE Nsp1-4(1053) TGCCGACGACCGGCCAAAACCTGCTGGTCAACCCAGCGTATAGTCTCAACCGTCCGACCCAGAGAAACCAATAACCATGAAAAAATTAACCTTTTGCCCC
 Consensus(1053) GC GA GACGC CAAAA CTGCI GT GG CT AA CAG G AT GT AACGG G ACCCA AGAAACAC AATAC ATGAAAAA TA CT T CC

(1156) 1156 1170 1180 1190 1200 1210 1220 1230 1240 1258
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opti(1156) GTCGTCGCCCAAGCCCTTCCCAAGATGGGCTAAGGAATACAAGAGGACCAGGAAGATGAGCGACCTCTCGGTCTCAGGGATCGACAGTTGGTTATGGGCTGCT
 VEE Nsp1-4(1156) GTAGTGGCCCAAGCAATTTGCTAGGTTGGCAAAAGGAATATAAGGAAGATCAAGGAAGATGAAAGGCCACTAGGACTACCGAGATAGACAGTTAGTCAATGGGGTGT
 Consensus(1156) GT GT GCCCA GC TT GC AG TGGC AAGGAATA AA GA CA GAAGATGA G CC CT GG CT G GAT GACAGTT GT ATGGG TG T

FIG. 5G

(3940) 3940 3950 3960 3970 3980 3990 4000 4010 4020 4030 4042
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(3940) AACTGACCAATATTACACGGGAAGCCCTTCATGAGCTGGTGGTCCAGTTATCACTGGTGAGGGGAGATATTCSCAACTGCAACTGAGGGGTCA
 VEE Nsp1-4(3940) ACCTTGACCAACATTTATACAGGTTCCAGACTCCACGAAGCCGGATGTGCACCCCTCATATCATGTGGTCCGAGGGGATATTCGCCACGGCCACCGAAGGAGTGA
 Consensus(3940) AC TGACCAA ATTTA AC GG C G CT CA GA GC GG TGIGC CCC TATCA GTGGTG G GG GATATTCG AC GC AC GA GG GT A
 (4043) 4043 4050 4060 4070 4080 4090 4100 4110 4120 4130 4145
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4043) TTATAAACCGCCGCAACTCCAAAGGCCAACCGGGCGGTGAGTGTGCGGTGCACCTCTACAAAAGTTCCAGAGAGTTCCGACCTTCAGCCTATTGAGGTAGG
 VEE Nsp1-4(4043) TTATAAATGCTGTAAACAGCAAGGACAACTGGCGGAGGGTGTGCGGAGCGCTGTATAAGAAATTCGGGAAAGCTTCGATTTACAGCCGATCGAAGTAGG
 Consensus(4043) TTATAAA GC GC AAC CAA GG CAACC GCGG GC CT TA AA AA TT CC GA AG TTCGA T CAGCC AT GA GTAGG
 (4146) 4146 4170 4180 4190 4200 4210 4220 4230 4248
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4146) CAAAGCCCGCTGGTGAAGCGCTGCAAAAGCACAATAATCCATGCGAGGGACCGAACTTCAACAAGTTAGCGAGGTGGAGGTGATAAACAGCTCGCCGAG
 VEE Nsp1-4(4146) AAAAGCGGACTGGTCAAAAGGTGCAATATCAATTCATGCCGTAGGACCAAACTTCAACAAAAGTTCCGAGGTTGAAGGTGACAAAACAGTTGGCAGAG
 Consensus(4146) AAAGC CG CTGGT AAAGG GC GC AA CA AT AT CATGC GT GGACC AACTTCAACAA GTT GAGGT GA GGTGA AAACAG T GC GAG
 (4249) 4249 4260 4270 4280 4290 4300 4310 4320 4330 4340 4351
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4249) GCGTATGAATCCATTGCCAAGATAGTTAATGACAATAACTATAAATCCGTAGCTATACCTTTGCTCTACGGGTATATTCAGCGGTAATAAAGATCGCCTGA
 VEE Nsp1-4(4249) GCTTATGAGTCCATCGTAAAGATTGTCAACGATAAACAATTCAAGTCAGTAGCGAATCCACTGTGTCCACCGGCACTTTTCGGGAAACAAGATCGACTAA
 Consensus(4249) GC TATGA TCCAT GC AAGAT GT AA GA AA TA AA TC GTAGC AT CC TG T TC AC GG AT TT CGG AA AAAGATCG CT A
 (4352) 4352 4360 4370 4380 4390 4400 4410 4420 4430 4440 4454
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4352) CCCAAAGCCTGAACCATCTGCTTACCGCTCGGACACAAACCGATGCGAGATGTGGCCATTTATTCGCCGACAAAAGTGGGAGATGACACTGAAGGAGGCCCGT
 VEE Nsp1-4(4352) CCCAATCATTTGAACCATTTGCTGACAGCTTTAGACACCACTGATGCGAGATGTAGCCATATACTGCAGGGACAAAGAAATGGAAATGACTCTCAAGGAAGCAGT
 Consensus(4352) CCCAA TGAACCAT TGCT AC GCT T GACAC AC GATGCAAGATGT GCCAT TA TGC G GACAA AA TGGGA ATGAC CT AAGGA GC GT
 (4455) 4455 4460 4470 4480 4490 4500 4510 4520 4530 4540 4557
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4455) TGCCAGACGGGAGCCGTAGAGGAGATCTGTATCAGTGATGACAGTTCTGTGACCCGAGCCAGACGCTGAACCTAGTTCGAGTTCAACCCIAAATCTAGTCTGGCC
 VEE Nsp1-4(4455) GGCTAGGACAGAGCAGTGGAGGAGATATGCATATCCGACGACTCTTCAGTGACAGAACCTGATGCGAGGTTGGTGGGTTGCATCCGAAAGAGTTCTTTGGCT
 Consensus(4455) GC AG G GA GC GT GAGGAGAT TG AT GA GAC TTC GTGAC GA CC GA GC GA CT GT G GT CA CC AA T T TGGC
 (4558) 4558 4570 4580 4590 4600 4610 4620 4630 4640 4650 4660
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4558) GGAAGAAAGGGCTACTCTACCCAGCGGAAAGACCTTTTCTTACTCCAGGGGAAACAAAGTTCCACCAGGGCGGAAAGGACATCCCGGATCAACCGCAATGT
 VEE Nsp1-4(4558) GGAAGAAAGGGCTACAGCACAGCGGATGGCAAAACTTTCTCATATTTGGAAGGGACCAAGTTCCACCAGGGCGGCAAGGATATAGCAGAAATTAATGCCATGT
 Consensus(4558) GGAAG AAGGGCTAC AC AGCGA GG AA AC TT TC TA TGGG GG AC AAGTT CACCAGGGCGC AAGGA AT GC GA AT AA GC ATGT

FIG. 5H

(4661) 4661 4670 4680 4690 4700 4710 4720 4730 4740 4750 4763

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4661) GGCCTGTGGCTACTGAAGCAAACGAAGTCTGTATGTATATATTGGCGAATCTATGAGCTCCATCAGGAGTAAGTGTCCCGTGGAGAGAGCGGCTTC

VEE Nsp1-4(4661) GGCCCGTTGCAACGGAGGCCAATGAGCAGGTATGATCATCTCGGAGAAAGCATGAGCAGTATTAGGTCGAAATGCCCCGTCGAAAGAGTGGAAAGCCCTC

Consensus(4661) GGCC GT GC AC GA GC AA GA CA GT TG ATGTATAT T GG GAA ATGAGC AT AGG AA TG CCGT GAAGAG GA GCCTC 4866

(4764) 4764 4770 4780 4790 4800 4810 4820 4830 4840 4850 4866

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4764) ATCACCGCCCAAGCAGTCTGCCCTGCCCTGTATCCATGCTATGATCCCTGAGAGAGTCCAGAGACTCAAGGCTCTCGCCCCGAAACAGATCACGGTGTGCAGC

VEE Nsp1-4(4764) CTCACCACCTAGCAGCGTGCCTTGTGTCATCCATGCTCCAGAAAGAGTACAGCGCTAAAGCTCAGTCCAGAAACAATAATTACTGTGTCTCA

Consensus(4764) TCACC CC AGCAC CTGCC TGC TGTG ATCCATGC ATGAC CC GA AGAGT CAG G CT AA GCCTC CG CC GAACA AT AC GTGTGC 4969

(4867) 4867 4880 4890 4900 4910 4920 4930 4940 4950

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4867) TCCTTTCCCTGCCAAAATACAGAAATCACCGGAGTCCAGAAATCAATGTTCCAGCCGATCCTTTTAGCCCCGAAAGTGCCTACATCCATCCCAGGA

VEE Nsp1-4(4867) TCCTTTCCATTTGCCAAGTATAGAAATCACTGTTGTCAGAAAGATCCAAATGCTCCAGCCTATATGTTCTCACCGAAAAGTGCCTGCGTATATTCATCCAAAGGA

Consensus(4867) TCCTTTCC TGCC AA TA AGAATCAC GG GT CAGAAGAT CAATG TCCCAGCC AT T TT CCGAA GTGCC GC TA AT CATCC AGGA 5072

(4970) 4970 4980 4990 5000 5010 5020 5030 5040 5050 5060 5072

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(4970) AATACCTTGTGGAGACTCCGCCAGTTGATGAAACACCCGAGCCCTCTGCCGAAAACCAAGCACAGAGGGCACCCCGAGCCTCCTCTCATTAACCGAGGA

VEE Nsp1-4(4970) AGTATCTCGTGGAAACACACCGGTAGACGAGACTCCGGAGCCATCGGCAGAGAAACCAATCCACAGAGGGACACCTGAACAACCCACTTATAACCGAGGA

Consensus(4970) A TA CT GTGGA AC CC CC GT GA AC CC GAGCC TC GC GA AACCAA CACAGAGGG AC CC GA CA CC CC CT AT ACCGAGGA 5175

(5073) 5073 5080 5090 5100 5110 5120 5130 5140 5150 5160 5175

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5073) CGAAACACGGACTCGAAACCCCGAACCGATTATCATTGAGGAAGAGGAAGGACAGCATCTCTTCTCCGATGGCCCCACCCCAAGTTTTCAGGTC

VEE Nsp1-4(5073) TGAGACCAGGACTAGAACGCCCTGAGCCGATCATCTCGAAGAGGAAGAGGATAGCATAAAGTTTGTCTGATGGCCCCGACCCACCCAGGTGCTGCAAGTC

Consensus(5073) GA AC GGACT GAAC CC GA CCGAT ATCAT GA GA GAAGAGGA AGCAT T T CT TC GATGGCCC ACCCACCA GT TGCA GTC 5278

(5176) 5176 5190 5200 5210 5220 5230 5240 5250 5260 5278

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5176) GAAGCGGATATCCACGGCCCCCTTCCGTCTCAAGTAGCAGCTGGAGTATCCCAACCGCCAGCGACITTTGACGTGGACAGCCTGTCTATTCTGGACACCCCTTG

VEE Nsp1-4(5176) GAGGCAGACATTCACGGGCCGCCCTCTGTATCTAGCTCATCTGGTCCATTCCTCATGATCCGACTTTGATGTGGACAGTTTATCCATACTTGACACCCCTGG

Consensus(5176) GA GC GA AT CACGG CC CC TC GT TC AG CTGG AT CC CA GC CGACITTTGA GTGGACAG T TC AT CT GACACCCCT G

FIG. 5I

(5279) 5279 5290 5300 5310 5320 5330 5340 5350 5360 5370 5381
VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5279) AGGGTCCCTCCGTAACTCTGGCCGACCCAGTCCCGAGACCAACAGCTATTTCCGCAAAATCAATGGAATTTCTGGCAAGGCCAGTCCCTGCTCCCGGACCGT
VEE Nsp1-4(5279) AGGGAGCTAGCGTACCGAGGGGCAACGTCAGCCGAGACTAACTTTACTTTCCGCAAAAGAGTATGGAGTTTCTGGCGCAGCCGGTCCCTGCGCTCGAACACAGT
Consensus(5279) AGGG GC CGT ACC GG GC AC GCCGAGAC AAC TA TTCGC AA ATGGA TTTCTGGC G CC GTGCTGC CC CG AC GT
(5382) 5382 5390 5400 5410 5420 5430 5440 5450 5460 5470 5484
VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5382) CTTCAGAAACCCCTCCGCATCCCGACCTCCGGACCCGACACCAAGCTTGGCACCATCCCGGCCCTGTTCTCGCGGAATAACTGGCGAGACAGTCCGTTACGCC
VEE Nsp1-4(5382) ATTCAAGAAACCCCTCCGCATCCCGACCCGACACCAAGCTTGGCACCATCCCGGCCCTGTTCTCGCGGAATAACTGGCGAGACAGTCCGTTACGCC
Consensus(5382) TTCAG AACCCCTCC CATCCCGC CC CG AC G ACACC T GCACC C GGGCCTG TC G GG AT AC GG GA AC GT GG TACGC
(5485) 5485 5490 5500 5510 5520 5530 5540 5550 5560 5570 5587
VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5485) GTAACCTACAATCCGAAGGTTTGGCTTTGCAAGGTGACCCGACACTGTGAAGGCGGAGAGTGTCAATTTCCCGTGTGTACTTATATCCCGCCACCATTA
VEE Nsp1-4(5485) GTTACACACAATAGCGAGGGCTTTGGCTATGCAAGTACTGACACAGTAAAGGAGAACGGGTATCGTTCCCTGTGTGCAAGTACATCCCGGCCACCAIAA
Consensus(5485) GT AC CACAAT CGA GG TT TTGCT TGCAA GT AC GACAC GT AA GG GA G GT TC TT CC GTGTG AC TA ATCCC GCCACCAT A
(5588) 5588 5600 5610 5620 5630 5640 5650 5660 5670 5680 5690
VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5588) ACTCCAGAACCCAGCTGGTCTCCAAACCCCGCCAGGGCTAAATAGGGTGTATTACAAGAGAGGAGTTTGGCGGTTCTGTAGCACAAACAATGACCGTTTGTATGC
VEE Nsp1-4(5588) ACTCGAGAACCCAGCTGGTCTCCAAACCCCGCCAGGGCTAAATAGGGTGTATTACAAGAGAGGAGTTTGGCGGTTCTGTAGCACAAACAATGACCGTTTGTATGC
Consensus(5588) ACTC AGAACCCAGCTGGTCTCCAAACCCCGCCAGGGCTAAATAGGGTGTATTACAAGAGAGGAGTTTGGCGGTTCTGTAGCACAAACAATGACCGTTTGTATGC
(5691) 5691 5700 5710 5720 5730 5740 5750 5760 5770 5780 5793
VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5691) GGGTGCATACATCTTTTCCCGACACCCGGTCAAGGGCATTTACAACAATAAATCAGTAAGGCAAAACGGTCCCTGTCCGAGTTGTACTGGAGAGGACAGAACTC
VEE Nsp1-4(5691) GGGTGCATACATCTTTTCCCGACACCCGGTCAAGGGCATTTACAACAATAAATCAGTAAGGCAAAACGGTCCCTGTCCGAGTTGTACTGGAGAGGACAGAACTC
Consensus(5691) GGGTGCATACATCTTTTCCCGACACCCGGTCAAGGGCATTTACAACAATAAATCAGTAAGGCAAAACGGTCT TCCGA GT GT TGGAGAGGAC GAA T
(5794) 5794 5800 5810 5820 5830 5840 5850 5860 5870 5880 5896
VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5794) GAAATCTCATAAGCCAGGCTGGACCCAGGAGGAAAGAACTTTGGCAAAAAGCTCCAGCTCAACCCCACTCCGCAATAGGAGTCCGTATCAAAAGTC
VEE Nsp1-4(5794) GAGATTTCTGTATGCCCGCCCTCGACCAAGAAAGAAATTAAGTACCGCAAGAAATTAAGTACCGCAAGAAATTAAGTACCGCAAGAAATTAAGTACCGCAAGAAATTAAGTACCGCA
Consensus(5794) GA AT TC TA GC CC G CT GACCA GA AA GAAGAA T T CG AA AA T CAG T AA CC AC CCTGC AA AG AG G TA CA
(5897) 5897 5910 5920 5930 5940 5950 5960 5970 5980 5999
VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(5897) GAAAAGTTGAAAATAATGAAGGCTATTACAGCTCGACCGAATTTTGGCAAGGCTCCGGCCTACTCCAGGCGGAGGGCAAGGTTGAAATGTTATAGAACACTTCA
VEE Nsp1-4(5897) GGAAGTGGAGAACATGAAGCCATAACAGCTAGACGTTATCTGCAAGGCTAGGCAATTTTGAAGGCGAGAGGAAAGTGGAGTGTCTACCGAACCCCTGCA
Consensus(5897) G AA GT GA AA ATGAA GC AT ACAGCT GACG ATT TGCAAGGCT GGGCA TA T AAGGC GA GG AA GT GA TG TA GAAC CT CA

FIG. 5K

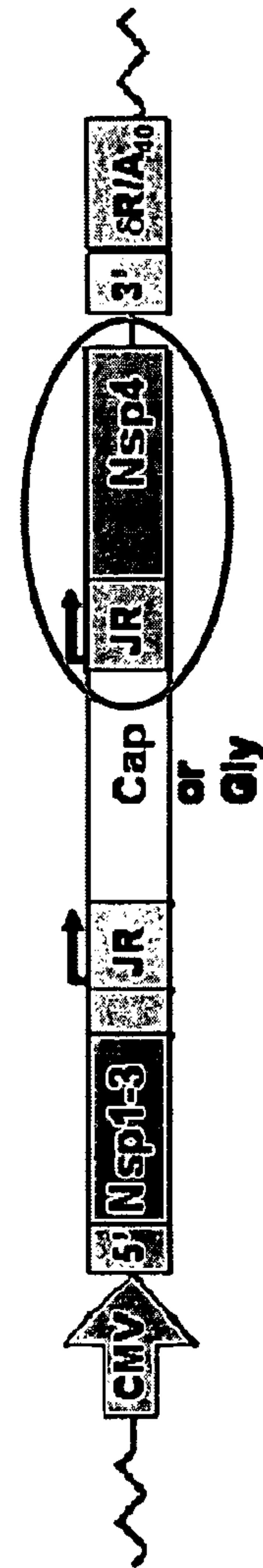
(6721) 6721 6730 6740 6750 6760 6770 6780 6790 6800 6810 6823
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(6720) ACACACTCTTCGACATGTCAGCCGAGGATTCGATGCCATCATCCGCGAGCACTTCAACCAGGAGATTGTGTCCTGGAGACGGATATAGCATCAATTTGAT
 VEE Nsp1-4(6720) TCATACACTGTTGATATGTCGGCTGAAGACTTTGACCGCTATTATAGCCGAGCACTTCCAGCCCTGGGATTTGTTCTTGAAACTGACATCGCGTGGTTGAT
 Consensus(6721) CA AC CT TT GA AIGTC GC GA TT GA GC AT AT GCCGAGCACTT CA CC GG GATFIGGT CTGGA AC GA AT GC TC TTTGAT
 (6824) 6824 6830 6840 6850 6860 6870 6880 6890 6900 6910 6926
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(6823) AAGAGTGAGGACGATGCGATGGCCCTTACCGCCCTTATGATACTGGAAGACCTGGGTGTCGATGCCGAGCTTCTGACTCTCATCGAGGCTGCCCTTCGGAGAAA
 VEE Nsp1-4(6823) AAAAGTGAGGACGACGCCATGGCTCTGACCCGCTTAAATGATCTGGAAGACTTGGTGGACGAGACTGTGACCGTGTGACCGTGTGAGCGGGCTTTCGGCGGAAA
 Consensus(6824) AA AGTGAGGACGA GC ATGGC CT ACCGC T ATGAT CTGGAAGAC T GGTGT GA GC GAGCT TGAC CT AT GAGGC GC TTCGG GAAA
 (6927) 6927 6940 6950 6960 6970 6980 6990 7000 7010 7029
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(6926) TCAGCTCCATCCACCTGCCACGAAAGCAAAAGTTTCAAGTTTGGTGGATGATGAAGTCCGGAATGTTCTGACCGTGTTCGTTAATAACAGTAATCAATATAGT
 VEE Nsp1-4(6926) TTTCAATCAATACATTTGCCACTAAACTAAATTTAAATTCGGAGCCATGATGAATCTGGAATGTTCCCTCACACTGTTCACACTGTTTGAAACACAGTCAATTAACATTTGT
 Consensus(6927) T TC AT CA TGCCAC AA AC AA TT AA TT GG GC ATGATGAA TC GGAATGTT CT AC CTGTT GT AA ACAGT AT AA AT GT
 (7030) 7030 7040 7050 7060 7070 7080 7090 7100 7110 7120 7132
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(7029) TATAGCTTACGGGTCCTGGGAGACTCACTGGAAGTCCCTGGCCGCTTTTCATCGGGACGATAAACAATTTGTAAGGGTGTAAAGTCAGATAAACTTATG
 VEE Nsp1-4(7029) AATCGCAAGCAGAGTGTGAGAGAACGGTAAACCGGATCACCAATGTGCAGCAATTCATTTGGAGATGACAATAATCGTGAAGGAGTCAAAATCGGACAAAATTAATG
 Consensus(7030) AT GC G GT TG G GA G CT AC GGA CC TG GC GC TTTCAT GG GA AA AT GT AA GG GT AA TC GA AAA T ATG
 (7133) 7133 7140 7150 7160 7170 7180 7190 7200 7210 7220 7235
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(7132) GCGGACCGTGTGCTACATGGCTGAAATTAATTGACGCGAGTCCGCGAGAAAGCCCGTACTTCTGTGGTGGATTTTATCCTCTGCGGATT
 VEE Nsp1-4(7132) GCAGACAGGTGGCCACCCTGTTGATATGGAAGTCAAGATTAATGATGCTGTGGTGGGAGAAAGCCCTTATTTCTGTGGAGGGTTTATTTTGTGACT
 Consensus(7133) GC GAC G TG GC AC TGG TGAA ATGGA GT AA AT AT GA GC GT GT GCGGAGAA GC CC TA TTCGTGG GG TTTAT T TG GA T
 (7236) 7236 7250 7260 7270 7280 7290 7300 7310 7320 7338
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(7235) CCGTCACAGGCACGGCATGCCGGTCCCGATCCCTCAAGAGGCTGTTCAAGCTGGCAAGCCCTCCGCTGCAGATGATGAACACGACCGACCGCGCGG
 VEE Nsp1-4(7235) CCGTGACCCGCCACAGGTGCCGTGCCAGACCCCTTAAAGCTGTTAAAGCTTGGCAAAACCTCTGGCAGCAGACCGATGAACATGATGATGACAGGAGAAG
 Consensus(7236) CCGT AC GGCAC GC TGCCG GT GC GA CCCCT AA AGGCTGTT AAGCT GGCAA CCTCT GC GCAGA GATGAACA GA GA GAC GG G G
 (7339) 7339 7350 7360 7370 7380 7390 7400 7410 7420 7430 7441
 VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(7338) CGCACTGCACGAGGAAATCAACTAGGTGGAACAGAGTGGGAATCCTGTGAACTGTGCAAGGCTGTGCAATCCAGATACGAAACTGTGGGACATCCCATCATC
 VEE Nsp1-4(7338) GGCATTGCATGAAGAGTCAACACCGCTGGAACCGAGTGGTATCTTTCAGAGCTGTGCAAGCCAGTAGAATCAAGGTATGAACCCGTAGGAACCTCCCATCATA
 Consensus(7339) GCA TGCA GA GA TCAAC G TGGAAC GAGTGGG AT CT TC GA CTGTGCAAGGC GT GAATC AG TA GAAAC GT GG AC TCCATCAT

FIG. 5L

(7431) 7431 7440 7450 7460 7470 7480 7490 7500 7510 7520 7533

VEE Nsp1-4 Codon Opt(7430) CATCCATCATCGTCAATGGCAATGACCACCTTGGCCAGCTCAGTCAAAATCTTTTCTTATCTGGCGGCGCTCCCATTACITTTGTAAGGATGACACGGTGCCAGC
VEE Nsp1-4(7430) CTTCCATCATAGTTAATGGCCATGACTACTCTAGCTAGCAGTGTAAATCAATTCAGCTACCTGAGAGGGGGCCCTATAACTCTCTACGGCTAA-----
Consensus(7431) C TCCATCAT GT AIGGC ATGAC AC T GC AGC GT AAATC TT TA CTG G GG GC CC AT ACT T TACGG T A

FIG. 6



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**RNA EXPRESSION CASSETTE AND CELLS
FOR MAKING ALPHAVIRUS PARTICLES**

This application claims the benefit of and incorporates by reference Ser. No. 60/990,088 filed Nov. 26, 2007.

This invention was supported by Contract No. HHSN266200500007C from the National Institutes of Health. The U.S. Government may have certain rights in the invention.

This application incorporates by reference the contents of a 112 kb text file created on Apr. 22, 2011 and named "12744878sequencelisting.txt," which is the sequence listing for this application.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to the preparation of recombinant alphavirus particles.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Recombinant alphavirus particles (alphavirus replicon particles) have great potential for use in protein production, antigen delivery, and various therapeutic applications. Alphavirus packaging cell lines (PCL) are the most efficient and cost effective way to generate alphavirus replicon particles. One obstacle in the development of alphavirus packaging cell lines, however, is the low particle yield. On the other hand, generation of RCV (replication competent viral particles) is a potential problem when generating large numbers of recombinant alphavirus particles. The probability of recombination can be greatly reduced by dividing the defective helpers in two separate cassettes, because multiple switches would be required to produce an infectious RNA. However, it is possible that large-scale production could still generate RCV. Thus, there is a need in the art for methods of increasing the productivity of PCL and of reducing the possibility that replication competent virus may be generated during large scale production of recombinant alphavirus particles.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

FIG. 1. Configurations of several double subgenomic promoter helper cassettes. "CMV," cytomegalovirus promoter; "5'," 5' untranslated region and sequences from the N-terminus of the Nsp1 coding region that are necessary for replication; "JR," subgenomic promoter with the adjacent sequences (junction region); "Cap/Gly," capsid or glycoprotein; "Nsp1-3," non-structural proteins 1-3; "Nsp4," non-structural protein 4; "3'," 3' untranslated region; "Psv40," SV40 promoter controlling transcription of neomycin resistance gene ("neo"); "IRES," internal ribosome entry site.

FIGS. 2A-D. BLAST alignment showing cleavage sites in nonstructural proteins of various types of alphavirus. FIG. 2A, SFV Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:14; Nsp2 VCR-Chim, SEQ ID NO:15; Sindbis Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:16; EEE Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:17; consensus, SEQ ID NO:18. FIG. 2B, SFV Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:21; Nsp2 VCR-Chim, SEQ ID NO:22; Sindbis Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:23; EEE Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:24; consensus, SEQ ID NO:25. FIG. 2C, SFV Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:26; Nsp2 VCR-Chim, SEQ ID NO:27; Sindbis Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:28; EEE Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:29; consensus, SEQ ID NO:30. FIG. 2D, SFV Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:31; Nsp2 VCR-Chim, SEQ ID NO:32; Sindbis Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:33; EEE Nsp2, SEQ ID NO:34; consensus, SEQ ID NO:35. In the consensus sequences of FIGS. 2A-D provided as SEQ ID NOS:18, 25,

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30, and 35 in the sequence listing, "Xaa" can be any amino acid or can be missing at the positions shown. Preferably the amino acids at positions indicated in SEQ ID NOS:18, 25, 30, and 35 with "Xaa" are selected from the amino acids shown at those positions in FIGS. 2A-D.

FIG. 3. Capsid cleavage sites, either at the 3' end of capsid protein (Trp) or at the 5' end of the glycoprotein serine residue (Met-Ser). 3' end of Sindbis capsid (Scap), SEQ ID NO:11; 5' end of Sindbis glycoprotein (Sgly), SEQ ID NO:12; RCV (replication competent viral particles), SEQ ID NO:13.

FIG. 4. BLAST alignment of capsid protein sequences SEQ ID NO:1 (Sindbis), SEQ ID NO:2 (SFV), SEQ ID NO:3 (EEE), and SEQ ID NO:4 (VEE). Consensus sequence, SEQ ID NO:5.

FIGS. 5A-L. BLAST alignment of VEE Nsp1-4 coding sequence with optimized coding sequence. VEE Nsp1-4 codon opt, SEQ ID NO:10; VEE Nsp1-4, SEQ ID NO:19; consensus, SEQ ID NO:20.

FIG. 6. Configuration of a double subgenomic promoter cassette. "CMV," cytomegalovirus promoter; "5'," 5' untranslated region and sequences from the N-terminus of the Nsp1 coding region that are necessary for replication; "JR," subgenomic promoter with the adjacent sequences (junction region); "Cap or Gly," capsid or glycoprotein; "Nsp1-3," non-structural proteins 1-3; "Nsp4," non-structural protein 4; "3'," 3' untranslated region; "ER," ribozyme cleavage site.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In a split helper system, each structural protein is encoded in a separate defective helper (DH) cassette containing 5' and 3' cis elements necessary for replication (see, e.g., US 2006/0292175). Expression of the encoded structural protein depends on the successful replication of the DH cassette by a replicase complex translated from the replicon and the subsequent transcription of subgenomic RNA. The replicase complex is translated as a single polypeptide chain which then undergoes sequential self-cleavage events, with different cleavage complexes then performing distinctive replication functions. The functional replicase complexes, particularly minus strand replicases which are necessary for the very first step of DH replication, are available for a limited time and location.

The invention provides strategies which can be used to increase the amount and availability of effective replicase complexes, thereby increasing the replication efficiency of DH transcripts and the productivity of PCL. The invention also provides strategies for minimizing the generation of replication competent viral particles (RCV). Though described below in connection with alphavirus-based packaging cell-line systems, the concepts and methods of the invention can readily be applied to other protein expression systems or viral packaging cell line systems to obtain commercially viable yields.

Double Subgenomic Promoter Expression Cassettes

In some embodiments, coding sequences for alphavirus nonstructural proteins 1-4 (nsp1-4) are placed under the control of a second subgenomic promoter in the same expression cassette as a structural protein. Once induced by the replicon, these "double subgenomic promoter expression constructs" have the property of self-sustained replication but have virtually no expression without induction.

An expression cassette of the invention comprises two transcription units as well as a promoter and control elements needed for expression. Typical control elements include, but are not limited to, transcription promoters, transcription enhancer elements, chromatin insulator, transcription termi-

nation signals, polyadenylation sequences (located 3' to the translation stop codon), sequences for optimization of initiation of translation (located 5' to the coding sequence), translation termination sequences, 5' sequences required for non-structural protein-mediated amplification, and 3' sequences required for nonstructural protein-mediated amplification.

Promoters for use in expression cassettes of the invention can be inducible or constitutive. Useful promoters include promoters include the CMV, MMTV, MoMLV, adenovirus VA1RNA promoters, and Poll promoters.

In some embodiments the first transcription unit is 5' to the second transcription unit. In other embodiments the first transcription unit is 3' to the second transcription unit. In either case, the first transcription unit comprises an alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a first coding sequence which encodes an alphavirus structural protein. The second transcription unit comprises another alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a second coding sequence which encodes alphavirus non-structural proteins 1-4. Elements of a transcription unit are "operably linked" when they are configured so as to perform their usual function; i.e., expression of the structural protein and non-structural proteins is under the control of the subgenomic promoters.

Alphavirus subgenomic promoters (also referred to as "junction region promoters" or JR) are derived generally from the region between the nonstructural and structural protein open reading frames. Typically, an alphavirus subgenomic promoter contains a core sequence that provides most promoter-associated activity, as well as flanking regions that further enhance the promoter-associated activity. For example, the HR strain Sindbis virus subgenomic junction region promoter typically begins at approximately nucleotide number 7579 and continues through at least nucleotide number 7612 (and possibly beyond). At a minimum, nucleotides 7579 to 7602 are believed to serve as the core sequence necessary for transcription of the subgenomic fragment.

The two subgenomic promoters in an expression cassette of the invention preferably are the same but can be derived from different alphaviruses. For example, at least one of the first and second subgenomic promoters is a Venezuelan encephalitis virus (VEE) subgenomic promoter, a Sindbis virus subgenomic promoter, an Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE) subgenomic promoter, or a Semliki Forest virus subgenomic promoter. In preferred embodiments both subgenomic promoters are Sindbis, VEE, SFV, or EEE promoters.

An "alphavirus structural protein" refers to either a capsid protein or a glycoprotein (which includes E1 and E2 and, where appropriate, E3). The capsid and glycoproteins can but need not be derived from the same type of alphavirus, e.g., Sindbis virus, SFV, VEE, or EEE. Thus, in some expression cassettes at least one of the first and second alphaviruses is a Sindbis virus. In other expression cassettes, at least one of the first and second alphaviruses is a VEE virus.

Examples of capsid protein sequences are provided in SEQ ID NO:1 (Sindbis), SEQ ID NO:2 (SFV), SEQ ID NO:3 (EEE), and SEQ ID NO:4 (VEE). Examples of structural polyprotein sequences are provided in SEQ ID NO:36 (Sindbis; capsid, amino acids 1-264; E3, amino acids 265-328; E2, amino acids 329-751; 6K, amino acids 752-806; E1, amino acids 807-1245), SEQ ID NO:37 (SFV; capsid, amino acids 1-267; E3, amino acids 268-333; E2, amino acids 334-755; 6K, amino acids 756-815; E1, amino acids 816-1253), SEQ ID NO:38 (VEE; capsid, amino acids 1-275; E3, amino acids 276-334; E2, amino acids 335-756; 6K, amino acids 757-812; E1, amino acids 813-1254), and SEQ ID NO:39 (EEE;

capsid, amino acids 1-260; E3, amino acids 261-323; E2, amino acids 324-743; 6K, amino acids 744-800; E1, amino acids 801-1241).

In some embodiments, described in more detail below, the capsid protein comprises a capsid protein which comprises one or more mutations which reduce autoproteolytic activity of the capsid protein (e.g., His141Ala, Asp147Ala, Asp163A, Ser215Ala, and combinations thereof, numbered according to SEQ ID NO:1).

In some embodiments, the capsid protein and/or the glycoprotein are "hybrid" proteins. A hybrid protein contains at least one functional domain derived from a first alphavirus while the remaining portion of the protein is derived from one or more additional alphaviruses. For example, a hybrid capsid protein can comprise an RNA binding domain from the first alphavirus and an envelope interaction domain from a second alphavirus. Hybrid capsid proteins and glycoproteins are described in more detail in US 2006/0292175.

As is known in the art, nonstructural proteins include nsP1, nsP2, nsP3, and nsP4. Examples of nonstructural protein sequences are provided as SEQ ID NOS:6-9, respectively. A DNA sequence encoding VEE Nsp1-4 using optimized codons is provided in SEQ ID NO:10. One of ordinary skill in the art will realize that a wide variety of sequences which encode alphavirus nonstructural proteins, in addition to those disclosed herein, may be used in the present invention, and are therefore deemed to fall within the scope of the phrase "alphavirus nonstructural proteins." For example, within one embodiment of the invention, due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, more than one codon may code for a given amino acid. Therefore, a wide variety of nucleic acid sequences which encode alphavirus nonstructural proteins may be generated. Within other embodiments of the invention, a variety of other nonstructural protein derivatives may be made, including for example, various substitutions, insertions, or deletions, the net result of which do not alter the biological activity of the alphavirus nonstructural proteins. Within the context of the present invention, alphavirus nonstructural proteins are deemed to be biologically active in toto if they promote the self-replication or trans-replication of the vector construct. Self-replication or trans-replication, which refers to replication of viral vector nucleic acids may be readily determined by metabolic labeling or RNase protection assays performed over a course of time.

Similarly, the capsid and glycoprotein proteins discussed above are not limited to polypeptides having the exact sequences disclosed herein. Alphaviral genomes are often in flux and contain several variable domains that exhibit relatively high degrees of variability between species and isolated. The terms "capsid," "glycoprotein," and "nonstructural protein(s)" encompass such proteins from any of the identified alphaviruses, as well as newly identified isolates, and subtypes of these isolates. In addition, amino acid sequences can be modified, particularly those in regions exhibiting high sequence homology.

Various nucleotide sequences can be used to encode the structural and nonstructural proteins. Optionally, as described below, sequences encoding nsp1-4 can be optimized to reduce the possibility of co-packaging into recombinant particles and to prevent recombination that could generate replication competent virus (RCVs).

In some embodiments expression cassettes of the invention comprise a selectable marker, such as Neo, SV2 Neo, hygromycin, puromycin, phleomycin, histidinol, or DHFR, which can be located at various points in the expression cassette as long as function of the transcription units is not disrupted.

Some expression cassettes of the invention comprise an internal ribosome entry site (IRES). The IRES can be placed between the 5' cis-replication element and subgenomic promoter, between two subgenomic promoters, or between subgenomic coding region and the 3' cis-replication element.

In another embodiment of the invention, all four non-structural proteins are produced from a single expression cassette, which has the advantage of more efficient assembly of replication complexes and increased expression of capsid and glycoproteins. See Vokova et al., *Virology* 344, 315-27, 2006; and U.S. Pat. No. 7,332,322. In some embodiments of the invention, transcription of nsp1-3 is under the control of an inducible or constitutive promoter as described above, transcription of the capsid or the glycoprotein is under the control of a first subgenomic promoter, and transcription of nsp4 is under the control of a second subgenomic promoter. Optionally, Nsp1-4 sequences are codon-optimized (see, e.g., SEQ ID NO:10). In some embodiments the capsid cassette has a puromycin marker and the glycoprotein cassette has no marker.

Examples of expression cassettes according to the invention are shown in FIG. 1 and FIG. 6.

Host Cells and Packaging Cell Lines

Expression cassettes of the invention can be introduced into host cells. In some cases, the host cell comprises a first expression cassette, which comprises (a) a first transcription unit comprising a first alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a first coding sequence which encodes a structural protein of a first alphavirus; and (b) a second transcription unit comprising a second alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a second coding sequence which encodes non-structural proteins 1-4 of a second alphavirus. Some host cells contain two such expression cassettes; in these embodiments the first expression cassette encodes a capsid protein and the second expression cassette encodes the glycoprotein. Such host cells can be used as packaging cells, which can be used to make recombinant alphavirus particles.

Host cells can be any eukaryotic cell which is suitable for recombinant protein production. These include avian cells, insect cells (e.g., C6/36, SF9), vertebrate, and mammalian cells. Examples of useful mammalian cell lines include Vero, MDBK, MDCK, MRC, NIH-3T3, BHK, PERC.6® (available from Crucell; see WO 01/38362 and WO 02/40665), EB cell lines, and HEK293 cells. Sources of avian cells include, but are not limited to, embryonic stem cells such as EBX® cells (Vivalis, FR), embryonic fibroblasts, and embryonic germ cells. Useful avian cells include the duck cell line AGE1.CR (ProBioGen). Other avian cell lines are disclosed, e.g., in U.S. Pat. No. 5,340,740; U.S. Pat. No. 5,656,479; U.S. Pat. No. 5,830,510; U.S. Pat. No. 6,114,168; U.S. Pat. No. 6,500,668; U.S. Pat. No. 6,872,561; EP 0787180B; EP03291813.8; WO 03/043415; and WO 03/076601.

Expression cassettes of the invention can be introduced into host cells using methods well known in the art, including, but not limited to, microinjection, liposome-mediated transfection, electroporation, and calcium phosphate precipitation. Alternatively, expression constructs of the invention can be incorporated into a polynucleotide delivery vehicle, such as a plasmid or a viral-based vector.

Once recombinant host cells, or "packaging cells," have been constructed they can be used to produce recombinant alphavirus particles upon introduction of a replicon comprising an alphavirus packaging signal and encoding a protein of interest. The protein of interest is typically an antigen. Antigens can be derived from any of several known viruses, bacteria, parasites and fungi, as well as any of the various tumor antigens or any other antigen to which an immune response is

desired. Furthermore, for purposes of the present invention, an "antigen" refers to a protein that includes modifications, such as deletions, additions and substitutions (generally conservative in nature), to the native sequence, so long as the protein maintains the ability to elicit an immunological response. These modifications may be deliberate, as through site-directed mutagenesis, or may be accidental, such as through mutations of hosts that produce the antigens. See US 2006/0292175.

Non-limiting examples of bacterial pathogens from which antigens can be derived include diphtheria, staphylococcus, cholera, tuberculosis, tetanus, *S. pneumoniae*, *S. agalactiae*, *S. pyogenes*, pertussis, meningitis, *N. gonorrhoeae*, *H. pylori*, *H. influenza*, and *P. gingivalis*.

Non-limiting examples of viral pathogens include meningitis virus, influenza virus, rhinovirus, respiratory syncytial virus, parainfluenza virus, Picornaviruses, human Papilloma virus, retroviruses, and hepatitis viruses.

Tumor antigens include, but are not limited to, MART-1, gp100, tyrosinase, tyrosinase related proteins 1 and 2, β -catenin, MUM-1, CDK-4, caspase-8, KIA 0205, HLA-A2-R1701; MAGE-1, MAGE-2, MAGE-3, MAGE-12, BAGE, GAGE, NY-ESO-1, alpha-fetoprotein, telomerase catalytic protein, G-250, MUC-1, carcinoembryonic antigen, p53, Her-2-neu, triosephosphate isomerase, CDC-27, and LDLR-FUT). See also WO 91/02062, U.S. Pat. No. 6,015,567, WO 01/08636, WO 96/30514, U.S. Pat. No. 5,846,538 and U.S. Pat. No. 5,869,445.

Sequential Amplification of DH Cassettes Involving Mutant Replicase Complexes

Other embodiments involve sequential amplification of DH cassettes. These embodiments take advantage of cell lines which constitutively express VEE nonstructural proteins and various alphavirus nonstructural protein mutants that have specific defects in subgenomic transcription but not in DH/replicon replication. Thus, these mutant nonstructural protein replicase complexes can be constitutively expressed to amplify the DH, but will not produce subgenomic transcripts coding alphavirus structural protein. Upon induction of the replicon, the amplified DH RNA is further amplified by wild type nsps from replicon. The wild type replicase complexes also produce subgenomic transcripts and lead to the expression of structural proteins. Several of these mutants show over hundreds-fold decrease in subgenomic RNA transcription or particle production compared with wild type nonstructural proteins, providing a powerful inducible system.

One useful mutant is the nsP2 cleavage mutant. Alphavirus minus strand replication requires uncleaved P123 together with correctly cleaved nsP4 and is shut off approximately 4 hours after infection (Kaariainen and Ahola, *Prog. Nucleic Acid Res. Mol. Biol.* 71, 187-222, 2002). Thus, mutations at well-conserved alphavirus nsps cleavage sites will not be cleaved and the mutant replicase should be available for a longer time compared with wild type replicase. In addition, in Sindbis and SFV such mutants have very low level of subgenomic RNA transcription (Lemm et al., *EMBO J.* 13(12), 2925-34, 1994, Shirako & Strauss, *J Virol.* 68(3), 1874-85, 1994, Kim et al., *Virology* 323(1), 153-63, 2004). These cleavage sites are well conserved in VEE virus (FIG. 2), and several different mutants (such as mutations at nsP1/nsP2 and nsP2/nsP3 cleavage sites) can be made.

The other mutations include R331A and R332A mutations in the Sindbis Nsp4 protein (Li & Stollar, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 101, 9429-34, 2004), which abolish the subgenomic promoter binding/transcription ability of replicase complexes but retain the ability to amplify viral/DH genome. These

mutations are highly conserved among different alphavirus families. Alternatively, deletions or other substitutions at R331, R332 (numbered according to SEQ ID NO:9) or both can be used. These mutant Nsp1-4 replicase complexes can be expressed from same DH transcript (such as linked to an IRES sequence) or can be expressed in cell substrate from a separate transcript cassette. Suitable substitutions include:

at R331: glutamine, leucine, serine, asparagine, glutamic acid, lysine, threonine, glycine, methionine, tryptophan, aspartic acid, histidine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, cysteine, isoleucine, proline, alanine, or valine; or

at R332: glutamine, leucine, serine, glutamic acid, lysine, threonine, glycine, methionine, tryptophan, aspartic acid, histidine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, cysteine, isoleucine, proline, alanine, or valine.

Several Sindbis and SFV temperature sensitive mutants show specific defects in subgenomic RNA synthesis (Lulla, *Virology* 80(6), 3108-11, 2006; Lastarza, *J. Virol.* 68(9), 5781-91, 1994). Such mutants also are useful for making Sindbis-, VEE-, and SFV-based PCL.

Optionally, alphavirus mutant nsp1-4 codons can be optimized to reduce the possibility of co-packaging into recombinant particles and to prevent recombination that could generate replication competent virus (RCVs). A DNA sequence encoding VEE Nsp1-4 using optimized codons is shown in SEQ ID NO:13.

Each of the strategies described above can be used in conjunction with one or more of the strategies described below.

Minimizing the Risk of Generating RCV Using Capsid Autoproteolysis Mutants

Generation of RCV (replication competent viral particles) is a potential problem for the application of alphavirus based replicon particles. The probability of recombination is greatly reduced by dividing the defective helpers into two separate cassettes because multiple switches would be required to produce an infectious RNA. However, it is conceivable that during large-scale production, RCV could be generated. The invention provides capsid autoproteolytic mutants which can be used to further reduce the possibility of generating RCV, providing an additional safeguard for the production of alphavirus based replicon particles. Using this strategy it is virtually impossible to generate wild type RCV.

Alphavirus structural proteins are translated in vivo from a 26S subgenomic RNA as a polyprotein that is processed both cotranslationally and posttranslationally. The capsid is postulated to be a serine protease that release itself from the N terminus of the nascent polyprotein by autoproteolysis. Several Sindbis virus autoproteolysis mutants have been identified (e.g., His141, Asp147, and Ser215) and all were lethal to the virus (Hahn & Strauss, 1990, *J. Virol.* 64, 3069-73, 1990). In a double helper system, the capsid is artificially separated from structural polyprotein, and the autoproteolysis function is probably not critical for alphavirus particle production. Thus, capsid autoprotease mutations can be used to minimize the risk of generating RCV. These mutations include changes at His141 (e.g., His141Ala), Asp147 (e.g., Asp147Ala), Asp163 (e.g., Asp163Ala), Ser215 (e.g., Ser215Ala), numbered according to SEQ ID NO:1, and combinations thereof. Other substitutions include:

at His141: glutamine, leucine, serine, arginine, glutamic acid, lysine, threonine, glycine, methionine, tryptophan, aspartic acid, histidine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, cysteine, isoleucine, proline, or valine;

at Asp147: glutamine, leucine, serine, arginine, glutamic acid, lysine, threonine, glycine, methionine, tryptophan, aspartic acid, histidine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, cysteine, isoleucine, proline, or valine;

at Asp163: glutamine, leucine, serine, arginine, glutamic acid, lysine, threonine, glycine, methionine, tryptophan, aspartic acid, histidine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, cysteine, isoleucine, proline, or valine; or

at Ser215: glutamine, leucine, serine, arginine, glutamic acid, lysine, threonine, glycine, methionine, tryptophan, aspartic acid, histidine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, cysteine, isoleucine, proline, or valine.

Changes also include deletions (e.g., Δ His141, Δ Asp147, Δ Asp163, Δ Ser215, and Δ Trp264) and insertions. Capsid proteins for use in the invention can comprise one, two, three or more such mutations.

In some embodiments, mutations are introduced at the capsid cleavage sites, either at the 3' end of capsid protein (Trp) or at the 5' end of the glycoprotein serine residue (Met-Ser) or in combinations (see FIG. 3). Deletions of key residues (e.g., capsid W264 and Gly Ser2) also can be made. Because capsid autocatalytic sites are conserved among different strains, this strategy can be used for a variety of alphavirus-based systems (e.g., Sindbis, SFV, and VEE; see FIG. 4).

All patents, patent applications, and references cited in this disclosure are expressly incorporated herein by reference. The above disclosure generally describes the present invention. A more complete understanding can be obtained by reference to the following specific examples, which are provided for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

Example 1

Improved Expression of Heterologous Protein Under the Control of a DH Cassette Comprising Two Subgenomic Promoters

DH expression cassettes which encode alphavirus nsP1-4 under a subgenomic promoter have the property of self-sustained replication once induced by replicon. Preliminary results using green fluorescent protein (GFP) as reporter system showed that such constructs have provide a 3-4 fold increase in the percentage of GFP positive cells and a similar fold of increase in mean fluorescence intensity (see Table 1).

TABLE 1

vector	mean GFP value	% cells positive
single subgenomic promoter	85	0.8
double subgenomic promoter (nsp1-neo fusion protein)	307	2.68
double subgenomic promoter (IRESneo)	206	2.12

Example 2

Capsid Mutants

Site-directed mutagenesis was used to generate the following capsid mutants: His141Ala, Asp147Ala, Ser215Ala, Trp264Ala and various of compound mutants. Mutagenesis was confirmed by sequencing. Mutations were incorporated into two split cassette RNAs (VCR-DH-Scap, VCR-DH-Sgly) to test whether they interfere with recombinant alphavirus particle production. In vitro Sp6-transcribed RNAs (wild-type or mutant capsid RNA, glycoprotein RNA, and green fluorescent protein (GFP) replicon RNA) were electroporated into BHK-v cells. Twenty hours later the supernatants were

harvested and used to infect naïve BHK cells. Eighteen hours later, FACS analysis was performed to determine the titer of replicon GFP particles. The results are shown in Tables 2 and 3.

TABLE 2

capsid	Replicon particle titer (IU/ml)
wild-type capsid	1.43E8
capsid H141A mutant	1.63E8
capsid D147A mutant	9.65E7
capsid S215A mutant	1.14E8
capsid W264A mutant	2.48E6

TABLE 3

capsid	Replicon particle titer (IU/ml)
wild-type capsid	3.17E8
capsid H141A + D163A	3.08E8
capsid H141 + S215A	3.84E8
capsid D163 + S215A	3.76E8
capsid H141A + D163A + S215A	4.89E8

The results show that the H141A, D147A, and S215A mutations do not affect the replicon particle titer, and the various compound mutants have a comparable level of particle production compared with wild type.

Example 3

Comparison of Single and Double Subgenomic Promoter Expression Constructs

Using green fluorescent protein (GFP) as the protein of interest, this example demonstrates that double subgenomic promoter expression constructs of the invention produce more protein of interest than constructs that employ only one subgenomic promoter.

BHK-v cells were propagated on 6-well plates and maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagle medium (DMEM) (Cellgro, Vermont, Va.) supplemented with 10% gamma-irradiated fetal bovine serum, 1% antibiotic (penicillin and

streptomycin), and 1% sodium pyruvate (Cellgro). VEE defective helper plasmid DNAs (VCP-nf3.1-GFP which codes for single subgenomic GFP transcript, and VCP-Psub-GFP-PsubNsp1-4 which codes for double subgenomic transcripts GFP and Nsp1-4) were transfected into BHK-v cells using LT1 transfection agent (Minis Bio) at 2 µg per well. Cells were expanded 48 hours post-transfection, and Geneticin (G418 sulfate, a neomycin sulfate analog; Cellgro) was added at 600 µg/ml in growth medium for selection and maintenance of stable recombinant BHK-v cell lines. Pools were collected from both transfections and propagated on 6-well plates. VCR-Chim2.1-gp120 replicon particles were used to infect the pool at MOI 5, and cells were collected 24 hours after infection. FACS analysis was performed to determine the GFP positive ratio. The results of duplicate (or quadruplicate) experiments for each construct are shown in Table 3.

The construct "VCP-nf3.1-GFP" listed in Table 3 contains only one subgenomic promoter. The construct "VCP-Pgfp-Pnsp-IRESneo" is the middle construct in FIG. 1. "VCP" stands for VEE CMV promoter plasmid; "Pgfp" stands for subgenomic promoter with GFP coding region; "Pnsp" stands for subgenomic promoter with Nsp1-4 coding region; and "IRES" stands for EMCV IRES driven neomycin.

TABLE 3

Construct	Mean (not-induced)/SD/% (+)	Mean (induced)/SD/%
VCP-nf3.1-GFP	26.45/6.68/0.17	50.36/83.38/0.61
	28.34/8.64/0.17	149.60/476.88/0.61
	1.15/0.31/0	77.07/148.31/1.52
	1.32/0.58/0	64.56/87.55/0.60
	1.32/0.58/0	64.56/87.55/0.60
VCP-Pgfp-Pnsp-IRESneo	235.52/977.35/0.71	249.03/450.47/1.92
	115.11/163.18/1.0	240.43/449.26/2.91
	105.35/158.29/0.78	281.36/540.27/2.65
	151.60/368.25/0.80	324.42/541.99/1.86
	266/397/0.23	394/1116/2.55
VCP-nf3.1Pgfp-Pnsp	253/208/1.03	319/447/4.65
	436/810/0.27	198/380/1.34
	471/513/1.13	451/541/3.59
	130/281/0.21	115/422/1.29
	448/837/0.5	299/989/3.65
VCP-nf3.1Pgfp-Pnsp	54/47/0.17	144/711/1.11
	247/492/0.41	269/789/2.45
	247/492/0.41	269/789/2.45

SEQUENCE LISTING

<160> NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 39

<210> SEQ ID NO 1

<211> LENGTH: 264

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 1

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Pro Thr Ala Met Trp Arg Pro Arg Arg Arg Gln Ala Ala Pro Met
20 25 30

Pro Ala Arg Asn Gly Leu Ala Ser Gln Ile Gln Gln Leu Thr Thr Ala
35 40 45

Val Ser Ala Leu Val Ile Gly Gln Ala Thr Arg Pro Gln Pro Pro Arg
50 55 60

Pro Arg Pro Pro Pro Arg Gln Lys Lys Gln Ala Pro Lys Gln Pro Pro
65 70 75 80

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Lys Pro Lys Lys Pro Lys Thr Gln Glu Lys Lys Lys Lys Gln Pro Ala
 85 90 95
 Lys Pro Lys Pro Gly Lys Arg Gln Arg Met Ala Leu Lys Leu Glu Ala
 100 105 110
 Asp Arg Leu Phe Asp Val Lys Asn Glu Asp Gly Asp Val Ile Gly His
 115 120 125
 Ala Leu Ala Met Glu Gly Lys Val Met Lys Pro Leu His Val Lys Gly
 130 135 140
 Thr Ile Asp His Pro Val Leu Ser Lys Leu Lys Phe Thr Lys Ser Ser
 145 150 155 160
 Ala Tyr Asp Met Glu Phe Ala Gln Leu Pro Val Asn Met Arg Ser Glu
 165 170 175
 Ala Phe Thr Tyr Thr Ser Glu His Pro Glu Gly Phe Tyr Asn Trp His
 180 185 190
 His Gly Ala Val Gln Tyr Ser Gly Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Pro Arg Gly
 195 200 205
 Val Gly Gly Arg Gly Asp Ser Gly Arg Pro Ile Met Asp Asn Ser Gly
 210 215 220
 Arg Val Val Ala Ile Val Leu Gly Gly Ala Asp Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr
 225 230 235 240
 Ala Leu Ser Val Val Thr Trp Asn Ser Lys Gly Lys Thr Ile Lys Thr
 245 250 255
 Thr Pro Glu Gly Thr Glu Glu Trp
 260

<210> SEQ ID NO 2
 <211> LENGTH: 267
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Semliki Forest virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 2

Met Asn Tyr Ile Pro Thr Gln Thr Phe Tyr Gly Arg Arg Trp Arg Pro
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 Arg Pro Ala Ala Arg Pro Trp Pro Leu Gln Ala Thr Pro Val Ala Pro
 20 25 30
 Val Val Pro Asp Phe Gln Ala Gln Gln Met Gln Gln Leu Ile Ser Ala
 35 40 45
 Val Asn Ala Leu Thr Met Arg Gln Asn Ala Ile Ala Pro Ala Arg Pro
 50 55 60
 Pro Lys Pro Lys Lys Lys Lys Thr Thr Lys Pro Lys Pro Lys Thr Gln
 65 70 75 80
 Pro Lys Lys Ile Asn Gly Lys Thr Gln Gln Gln Lys Lys Lys Asp Lys
 85 90 95
 Gln Ala Asp Lys Lys Lys Lys Lys Pro Gly Lys Arg Glu Arg Met Cys
 100 105 110
 Met Lys Ile Glu Asn Asp Cys Ile Phe Glu Val Lys His Glu Gly Lys
 115 120 125
 Val Thr Gly Tyr Ala Cys Leu Val Gly Asp Lys Val Met Lys Pro Ala
 130 135 140
 His Val Lys Gly Val Ile Asp Asn Ala Asp Leu Ala Lys Ile Ala Phe
 145 150 155 160
 Lys Lys Ser Ser Lys Tyr Asp Leu Glu Cys Ala Gln Ile Pro Val His
 165 170 175
 Met Arg Ser Asp Ala Ser Lys Tyr Thr His Glu Lys Pro Glu Gly His

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100	105	110
Asn Gln Lys Gly Val Thr Val Lys Asp Thr Pro Glu Gly Ser Glu Pro		
115	120	125
Trp		
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<211> LENGTH: 281		
<212> TYPE: PRT		
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence		
<220> FEATURE:		
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: consensus sequence		
<221> NAME/KEY: VARIANT		
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa = Any Amino Acid		
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa = Any Amino Acid		
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20	25	30
Met Arg Pro Xaa Xaa Phe Leu Ala Ala Gln Ile Gln Gln Leu Thr Arg		
35	40	45
Ala Val Ala Asn Leu Thr Ile Lys Gln Arg Ala Xaa Ala Pro Pro Xaa		
50	55	60
Gly Pro Pro Pro Lys Lys Lys Lys Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa		
65	70	75
Xaa Xaa Xaa Gln Xaa Lys Pro Lys Pro Lys Gln Xaa Pro Lys Lys Lys		
85	90	95
Lys Xaa Lys Thr Gln Asn Pro Lys Lys Lys Gln Lys Asn Lys Pro Lys		
100	105	110
Xaa Xaa Lys Lys Pro Gly Lys Arg Gln Arg Met Cys Met Lys Leu Glu		
115	120	125
Ser Asp Lys Thr Phe Pro Ile Met Leu Glu Gly Xaa Lys Val Asn Gly		
130	135	140
Tyr Ala Cys Val Val Gly Gly Lys Val Met Lys Pro Leu His Val Lys		
145	150	155
Gly Lys Ile Asp Asn Asp Val Leu Ala Lys Leu Lys Phe Lys Lys Ala		
165	170	175
Ser Lys Tyr Asp Leu Glu Tyr Ala Gln Val Pro Val Asn Met Arg Ser		
180	185	190
Asp Thr Phe Lys Tyr Thr Ser Glu Lys Pro Glu Gly Phe Tyr Asn Trp		
195	200	205
His His Gly Ala Val Gln Tyr Ser Asn Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Pro Arg		
210	215	220
Gly Val Gly Gly Lys Gly Asp Ser Gly Arg Pro Ile Leu Asp Asn Lys		
225	230	235
Gly Arg Val Val Ala Ile Val Leu Gly Gly Val Asn Glu Gly Ser Arg		
245	250	255
Thr Ala Leu Ser Val Val Thr Trp Asn Xaa Lys Gly Val Thr Val Lys		
260	265	270
Xaa Thr Pro Glu Gly Ser Glu Glu Trp		
275	280	

<210> SEQ ID NO 6

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<211> LENGTH: 535
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Alphavirus

<400> SEQUENCE: 6

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Ala Leu Gln Arg Ser Phe Pro Gln Phe Glu Val Glu Ala Lys Gln Val
 20          25          30

Thr Asp Asn Asp His Ala Asn Ala Arg Ala Phe Ser His Leu Ala Ser
 35          40          45

Lys Leu Ile Glu Thr Glu Val Asp Pro Ser Asp Thr Ile Leu Asp Ile
 50          55          60

Gly Ser Ala Pro Ala Arg Arg Met Tyr Ser Lys His Lys Tyr His Cys
 65          70          75          80

Ile Cys Pro Met Arg Cys Ala Glu Asp Pro Asp Arg Leu Tyr Lys Tyr
 85          90          95

Ala Thr Lys Leu Lys Lys Asn Cys Lys Glu Ile Thr Asp Lys Glu Leu
 100         105         110

Asp Lys Lys Met Lys Glu Leu Ala Ala Val Met Ser Asp Pro Asp Leu
 115         120         125

Glu Thr Glu Thr Met Cys Leu His Asp Asp Glu Ser Cys Arg Tyr Glu
 130         135         140

Gly Gln Val Ala Val Tyr Gln Asp Val Tyr Ala Val Asp Gly Pro Thr
 145         150         155         160

Ser Leu Tyr His Gln Ala Asn Lys Gly Val Arg Val Ala Tyr Trp Ile
 165         170         175

Gly Phe Asp Thr Thr Pro Phe Met Phe Lys Asn Leu Ala Gly Ala Tyr
 180         185         190

Pro Ser Tyr Ser Thr Asn Trp Ala Asp Glu Thr Val Leu Thr Ala Arg
 195         200         205

Asn Ile Gly Leu Cys Ser Ser Asp Val Met Glu Arg Ser Arg Arg Gly
 210         215         220

Met Ser Ile Leu Arg Lys Lys Tyr Leu Lys Pro Ser Asn Asn Val Leu
 225         230         235         240

Phe Ser Val Gly Ser Thr Ile Tyr His Glu Lys Arg Asp Leu Leu Arg
 245         250         255

Ser Trp His Leu Pro Ser Val Phe His Leu Arg Gly Lys Gln Asn Tyr
 260         265         270

Thr Cys Arg Cys Glu Thr Ile Val Ser Cys Asp Gly Tyr Val Val Lys
 275         280         285

Arg Ile Ala Ile Ser Pro Gly Leu Tyr Gly Lys Pro Ser Gly Tyr Ala
 290         295         300

Ala Thr Met His Arg Glu Gly Phe Leu Cys Cys Lys Val Thr Asp Thr
 305         310         315         320

Leu Asn Gly Glu Arg Val Ser Phe Pro Val Cys Thr Tyr Val Pro Ala
 325         330         335

Thr Leu Cys Asp Gln Met Thr Gly Ile Leu Ala Thr Asp Val Ser Ala
 340         345         350

Asp Asp Ala Gln Lys Leu Leu Val Gly Leu Asn Gln Arg Ile Val Val
 355         360         365

Asn Gly Arg Thr Gln Arg Asn Thr Asn Thr Met Lys Asn Tyr Leu Leu
 370         375         380

Pro Val Val Ala Gln Ala Phe Ala Arg Trp Ala Lys Glu Tyr Lys Glu

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385		390		395		400									
Asp	Gln	Glu	Asp	Glu	Arg	Pro	Leu	Gly	Leu	Arg	Asp	Arg	Gln	Leu	Val
				405					410					415	
Met	Gly	Cys	Cys	Trp	Ala	Phe	Arg	Arg	His	Lys	Ile	Thr	Ser	Ile	Tyr
			420					425					430		
Lys	Arg	Pro	Asp	Thr	Gln	Thr	Ile	Ile	Lys	Val	Asn	Ser	Asp	Phe	His
		435					440					445			
Ser	Phe	Val	Leu	Pro	Arg	Ile	Gly	Ser	Asn	Thr	Leu	Glu	Ile	Gly	Leu
	450					455					460				
Arg	Thr	Arg	Ile	Arg	Lys	Met	Leu	Glu	Glu	His	Lys	Glu	Pro	Ser	Pro
465					470					475					480
Leu	Ile	Thr	Ala	Glu	Asp	Val	Gln	Glu	Ala	Lys	Cys	Ala	Ala	Asp	Glu
			485						490					495	
Ala	Lys	Glu	Val	Arg	Glu	Ala	Glu	Glu	Leu	Arg	Ala	Ala	Leu	Pro	Pro
			500					505					510		
Leu	Ala	Ala	Asp	Val	Glu	Glu	Pro	Thr	Leu	Glu	Ala	Asp	Val	Asp	Leu
		515					520					525			
Met	Leu	Gln	Glu	Ala	Gly	Ala									
	530					535									

<210> SEQ ID NO 7
 <211> LENGTH: 794
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Alphavirus

<400> SEQUENCE: 7

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Gly	Glu	Asp	Lys	Ile	Gly	Ser	Tyr	Ala	Val	Leu	Ser	Pro	Gln	Ala	Val
			20					25					30		
Leu	Lys	Ser	Glu	Lys	Leu	Ser	Cys	Ile	His	Pro	Leu	Ala	Glu	Gln	Val
		35					40					45			
Ile	Val	Ile	Thr	His	Ser	Gly	Arg	Lys	Gly	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Val	Glu	Pro
		50				55					60				
Tyr	His	Gly	Lys	Val	Val	Val	Pro	Glu	Gly	His	Ala	Ile	Pro	Val	Gln
65					70					75					80
Asp	Phe	Gln	Ala	Leu	Ser	Glu	Ser	Ala	Thr	Ile	Val	Tyr	Asn	Glu	Arg
				85					90					95	
Glu	Phe	Val	Asn	Arg	Tyr	Leu	His	His	Ile	Ala	Thr	His	Gly	Gly	Ala
			100					105					110		
Leu	Asn	Thr	Asp	Glu	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Lys	Thr	Val	Lys	Pro	Ser	Glu	His
		115					120					125			
Asp	Gly	Glu	Tyr	Leu	Tyr	Asp	Ile	Asp	Arg	Lys	Gln	Cys	Val	Lys	Lys
	130					135					140				
Glu	Leu	Val	Thr	Gly	Leu	Gly	Leu	Thr	Gly	Glu	Leu	Val	Asp	Pro	Pro
145					150					155					160
Phe	His	Glu	Phe	Ala	Tyr	Glu	Ser	Leu	Arg	Thr	Arg	Pro	Ala	Ala	Pro
				165					170					175	
Tyr	Gln	Val	Pro	Thr	Ile	Gly	Val	Tyr	Gly	Val	Pro	Gly	Ser	Gly	Lys
			180					185					190		
Ser	Gly	Ile	Ile	Lys	Ser	Ala	Val	Thr	Lys	Lys	Asp	Leu	Val	Val	Ser
		195					200					205			
Ala	Lys	Lys	Glu	Asn	Cys	Ala	Glu	Ile	Ile	Arg	Asp	Val	Lys	Lys	Met
						215					220				

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Lys Gly Leu Asp Val Asn Ala Arg Thr Val Asp Ser Val Leu Leu Asn
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 245 250 255
 Cys His Ala Gly Thr Leu Arg Ala Leu Ile Ala Ile Ile Arg Pro Lys
 260 265 270
 Lys Ala Val Leu Cys Gly Asp Pro Lys Gln Cys Gly Phe Phe Asn Met
 275 280 285
 Met Cys Leu Lys Val His Phe Asn His Glu Ile Cys Thr Gln Val Phe
 290 295 300
 His Lys Ser Ile Ser Arg Arg Cys Thr Lys Ser Val Thr Ser Val Val
 305 310 315 320
 Ser Thr Leu Phe Tyr Asp Lys Lys Met Arg Thr Thr Asn Pro Lys Glu
 325 330 335
 Thr Lys Ile Val Ile Asp Thr Thr Gly Ser Thr Lys Pro Lys Gln Asp
 340 345 350
 Asp Leu Ile Leu Thr Cys Phe Arg Gly Trp Val Lys Gln Leu Gln Ile
 355 360 365
 Asp Tyr Lys Gly Asn Glu Ile Met Thr Ala Ala Ala Ser Gln Gly Leu
 370 375 380
 Thr Arg Lys Gly Val Tyr Ala Val Arg Tyr Lys Val Asn Glu Asn Pro
 385 390 395 400
 Leu Tyr Ala Pro Thr Ser Glu His Val Asn Val Leu Leu Thr Arg Thr
 405 410 415
 Glu Asp Arg Ile Val Trp Lys Thr Leu Ala Gly Asp Pro Trp Ile Lys
 420 425 430
 Thr Leu Thr Ala Lys Tyr Pro Gly Asn Phe Thr Ala Thr Ile Glu Glu
 435 440 445
 Trp Gln Ala Glu His Asp Ala Ile Met Arg His Ile Leu Glu Arg Pro
 450 455 460
 Asp Pro Thr Asp Val Phe Gln Asn Lys Ala Asn Val Cys Trp Ala Lys
 465 470 475 480
 Ala Leu Val Pro Val Leu Lys Thr Ala Gly Ile Asp Met Thr Thr Glu
 485 490 495
 Gln Trp Asn Thr Val Asp Tyr Phe Glu Thr Asp Lys Ala His Ser Ala
 500 505 510
 Glu Ile Val Leu Asn Gln Leu Cys Val Arg Phe Phe Gly Leu Asp Leu
 515 520 525
 Asp Ser Gly Leu Phe Ser Ala Pro Thr Val Pro Leu Ser Ile Arg Asn
 530 535 540
 Asn His Trp Asp Asn Ser Pro Ser Pro Asn Met Tyr Gly Leu Asn Lys
 545 550 555 560
 Glu Val Val Arg Gln Leu Ser Arg Arg Tyr Pro Gln Leu Pro Arg Ala
 565 570 575
 Val Ala Thr Gly Arg Val Tyr Asp Met Asn Thr Gly Thr Leu Arg Asn
 580 585 590
 Tyr Asp Pro Arg Ile Asn Leu Val Pro Val Asn Arg Arg Leu Pro His
 595 600 605
 Ala Leu Val Leu His His Asn Glu His Pro Gln Ser Asp Phe Ser Ser
 610 615 620
 Phe Val Ser Lys Leu Lys Gly Arg Thr Val Leu Val Val Gly Glu Lys
 625 630 635 640
 Leu Ser Val Pro Gly Lys Met Val Asp Trp Leu Ser Asp Arg Pro Glu

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Trp Pro Val Ala Thr Glu Ala Asn Glu Gln Val Cys Met Tyr Ile Leu
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 Glu Ala Ser Ser Pro Pro Ser Thr Leu Pro Cys Leu Cys Ile His Ala
 260 265 270
 Met Thr Pro Glu Arg Val Gln Arg Leu Lys Ala Ser Arg Pro Glu Gln
 275 280 285
 Ile Thr Val Cys Ser Ser Phe Pro Leu Pro Lys Tyr Arg Ile Thr Gly
 290 295 300
 Val Gln Lys Ile Gln Cys Ser Gln Pro Ile Leu Phe Ser Pro Lys Val
 305 310 315 320
 Pro Ala Tyr Ile His Pro Arg Lys Tyr Leu Val Glu Thr Pro Pro Val
 325 330 335
 Asp Glu Thr Pro Glu Pro Ser Ala Glu Asn Gln Ser Thr Glu Gly Thr
 340 345 350
 Pro Glu Gln Pro Pro Leu Ile Thr Glu Asp Glu Thr Arg Thr Arg Thr
 355 360 365
 Pro Glu Pro Ile Ile Ile Glu Glu Glu Glu Asp Ser Ile Ser Leu
 370 375 380
 Leu Ser Asp Gly Pro Thr His Gln Val Leu Gln Val Glu Ala Asp Ile
 385 390 395 400
 His Gly Pro Pro Ser Val Ser Ser Ser Ser Trp Ser Ile Pro His Ala
 405 410 415
 Ser Asp Phe Asp Val Asp Ser Leu Ser Ile Leu Asp Thr Leu Glu Gly
 420 425 430
 Ala Ser Val Thr Ser Gly Ala Thr Ser Ala Glu Thr Asn Ser Tyr Phe
 435 440 445
 Ala Lys Ser Met Glu Phe Leu Ala Arg Pro Val Pro Ala Pro Arg Thr
 450 455 460
 Val Phe Arg Asn Pro Pro His Pro Ala Pro Arg Thr Arg Thr Pro Ser
 465 470 475 480
 Leu Ala Pro Ser Arg Ala Cys Ser Arg Gly Ile Thr Gly Glu Thr Val
 485 490 495
 Gly Tyr Ala Val Thr His Asn Ser Glu Gly Phe Leu Leu Cys Lys Val
 500 505 510
 Thr Asp Thr Val Lys Gly Glu Arg Val Ser Phe Pro Val Cys Thr Tyr
 515 520 525
 Ile Pro Ala Thr Ile Asn Ser Arg Thr Ser Leu Val Ser Asn Pro Pro
 530 535 540
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 545 550 555 560
 Gln Gln Gln

<210> SEQ ID NO 9
 <211> LENGTH: 606
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Alphavirus

<400> SEQUENCE: 9

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 20 25 30

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Asp Asp Asn Ile Val Lys Gly Val Lys Ser Asp Lys Leu Met Ala Asp 465 470 475 480		
Arg Cys Ala Thr Trp Leu Asn Met Glu Val Lys Ile Ile Asp Ala Val 485 490 495		
Val Gly Glu Lys Ala Pro Tyr Phe Cys Gly Gly Phe Ile Leu Cys Asp 500 505 510		
Ser Val Thr Gly Thr Ala Cys Arg Val Ala Asp Pro Leu Lys Arg Leu 515 520 525		
Phe Lys Leu Gly Lys Pro Leu Ala Ala Asp Asp Glu His Asp Asp Asp 530 535 540		
Arg Arg Arg Ala Leu His Glu Glu Ser Thr Arg Trp Asn Arg Val Gly 545 550 555 560		
Ile Leu Ser Glu Leu Cys Lys Ala Val Glu Ser Arg Tyr Glu Thr Val 565 570 575		
Gly Thr Ser Ile Ile Val Met Ala Met Thr Thr Leu Ala Ser Ser Val 580 585 590		
Lys Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Arg Gly Ala Pro Ile Thr Leu Tyr 595 600 605		

<210> SEQ ID NO 10
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 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: codon optimized sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 10

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caaagctcat tgagacagaa gtcgatccct ctgacacccat cctggatata ggtagcgcgcc 180
cggcgaggcg catgtacagc aaacacaaat accactgcat atgccctatg cgctgcgcag 240
aggaccacaga taggctatac aaatacgcca cgaaactcaa gaagaattgc aaagagatca 300
ccgacaaaga gctcgataaa aagatgaaag aacttgcggc tgtgatgtcc gatcccgatc 360
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<210> SEQ ID NO 11
<211> LENGTH: 15
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

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<400> SEQUENCE: 11

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Lys Gly Lys Thr Ile Lys Thr Thr Pro Glu Gly Thr Glu Glu Trp
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<210> SEQ ID NO 12
<211> LENGTH: 18
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

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<400> SEQUENCE: 12

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Met Ser Ala Ala Pro Leu Val Thr Ala Met Cys Leu Leu Gly Asn Val
 1           5           10           15

```

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Ser Phe

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<210> SEQ ID NO 13
 <211> LENGTH: 32
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 13

Lys Gly Lys Thr Ile Lys Thr Thr Pro Glu Gly Thr Glu Glu Trp Ser
 1 5 10 15
 Ala Ala Pro Leu Val Thr Ala Met Cys Leu Leu Gly Asn Val Ser Phe
 20 25 30

<210> SEQ ID NO 14
 <211> LENGTH: 111
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Semliki Forest virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

His Ala Gly Ala Gly Val Val Glu Thr Pro Arg Ser Ala Ile Lys Val
 1 5 10 15
 Thr Ala Gln Pro Asn Asp Val Leu Leu Gly Asn Tyr Val Val Ile Ser
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 Pro Gln Thr Val Leu Lys Ser Ser Lys Leu Ala Pro Val His Glu Leu
 35 40 45
 Ala Glu Gln Val Lys Ile Ile Thr His Asn Gly Arg Ala Gly Gly Tyr
 50 55 60
 Gln Val Asp Gly Tyr Asp Gly Arg Val Ile Ile Phe Cys Gly Ser Ala
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 Ile Pro Val Pro Glu Phe Gln Ala Leu Ser Glu Ser Ala Thr Met Val
 85 90 95
 Tyr Asn Glu Arg Glu Phe Val Asn Arg Lys Leu Tyr His Ile Ala
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 15
 <211> LENGTH: 111
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: chimeric nsp2

<400> SEQUENCE: 15

Glu Ala Gly Ala Gly Ser Val Glu Thr Pro Arg Gly Leu Ile Lys Val
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 Thr Ser Tyr Ala Gly Glu Asp Lys Ile Gly Ser Tyr Ala Val Ile Ser
 20 25 30
 Pro Gln Ala Val Leu Lys Ser Glu Lys Leu Ser Cys Ile His Pro Ile
 35 40 45
 Ala Glu Gln Val Ile Val Ile Thr His Ser Gly Arg Lys Gly Arg Tyr
 50 55 60
 Ala Val Glu Pro Tyr His Gly Lys Val Val Val Pro Glu Gly His Ala
 65 70 75 80
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 85 90 95
 Tyr Asn Glu Arg Phe Phe Val Asn Arg Tyr Leu His His Ile Ala
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<210> SEQ ID NO 16
 <211> LENGTH: 111
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

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<400> SEQUENCE: 16

Asp Ile Gly Ala Ala Leu Val Glu Thr Pro Arg Gly His Val Arg Ile
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 Ile Pro Gln Ala Asn Asp Arg Met Ile Gly Gln Tyr Ile Val Val Ser
 20 25 30
 Pro Asn Ser Val Leu Lys Asn Ala Lys Leu Ala Pro Ala His Pro Leu
 35 40 45
 Ala Asp Gln Val Lys Ile Ile Thr His Ser Gly Arg Ser Gly Arg Tyr
 50 55 60
 Ala Val Glu Pro Tyr Asp Ala Lys Val Leu Met Pro Ala Gly Gly Ala
 65 70 75 80
 Val Pro Trp Pro Glu Phe Leu Ala Leu Ser Glu Ser Ala Thr Leu Val
 85 90 95
 Tyr Asn Asn Glu Arg Phe Val Asn Arg Lys Leu Tyr His Ile Ala
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 17

<211> LENGTH: 111

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Eastern equine encephalitis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 17

Glu Ala Gly Ala Gly Ser Val Glu Thr Pro Arg Arg His Ile Lys Val
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 Thr Thr Tyr Pro Gly Glu Glu Met Ile Gly Ser Tyr Ala Val Ile Ser
 20 25 30
 Pro Gln Ala Val Leu Asn Ser Glu Lys Leu Ala Cys Ile His Pro Ile
 35 40 45
 Ala Glu Gln Val Leu Val Met Thr His Lys Gly Arg Ala Gly Arg Tyr
 50 55 60
 Lys Val Glu Pro Tyr His Asp Arg Val Ile Val Pro Ser Gly Thr Ala
 65 70 75 80
 Ile Pro Ile Pro Asp Phe Gln Ala Leu Ser Glu Ser Ala Thr Ile Val
 85 90 95
 Phe Asn Glu Arg Phe Phe Val Asn Arg Tyr Leu His His Ile Ala
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 18

<211> LENGTH: 111

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: consensus sequence

<400> SEQUENCE: 18

Glu Ala Gly Ala Gly Ser Val Glu Thr Pro Arg Gly His Ile Lys Val
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 Thr Ser Tyr Pro Asn Asp Asp Met Ile Gly Ser Tyr Ala Val Ile Ser
 20 25 30
 Pro Gln Ala Val Leu Lys Ser Glu Lys Leu Ala Pro Ile His Phe Leu
 35 40 45
 Ala Glu Gln Val Lys Ile Ile Thr His Ser Gly Arg Ala Gly Arg Tyr
 50 55 60
 Ala Val Glu Pro Tyr His Gly Lys Val Leu Val Phe Ala Gly Ser Ala
 65 70 75 80
 Ile Pro Val Pro Asp Phe Gln Ala Leu Ser Glu Ser Ala Thr Ile Val
 85 90 95

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Tyr Asn Glu Arg Glu Phe Val Asn Arg Tyr Leu His His Ile Ala
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<210> SEQ ID NO 19

<211> LENGTH: 7507

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Venezuelan encephalitis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 19

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<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Semliki Forest virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 21

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          35           40           45
Thr Lys Tyr Tyr Gly Val Asp Ile Asp Ser Gly Ile Phe Ser Ala Pro
 50           55           60
Lys Tyr Ser Leu Tyr Tyr Glu Asn Asn His Trp Asp Asn Arg Pro Gly
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Gly Arg Met Tyr Gly Phe Asn Ala Ala Thr Ala Ala Arg Leu Glu Ala

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	85	90	95
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Arg His Thr Phe Leu Lys Gly Gln Trp
 100 105

<210> SEQ ID NO 22
 <211> LENGTH: 104
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: chimeric nsp2

<400> SEQUENCE: 22

Pro Asn Val Cys Trp	Ala Lys Ala Leu Val	Pro Val Leu Lys Thr	Ala
1	5	10	15

Gly Ile Asp Met Thr Thr	Glu Gln Trp Asn Thr	Val Asp Tyr Phe Glu	
20	25	30	

Thr Asp Lys Ala His Ser	Ala Glu Ile Val Leu	Asn Gln Leu Cys Val	
35	40	45	

Arg Phe Phe Gly Leu Asp	Leu Asp Ser Gly Leu	Phe Ser Ala Pro Thr	
50	55	60	

Val Pro Leu Ser Ile Arg	Asn Asn His Trp Asp	Asn Ser Pro Ser Pro	
65	70	75	80

Asn Met Tyr Gly Leu Asn	Lys Glu Val Val Arg	Gln Leu Ser Arg Arg	
85	90	95	

Tyr Pro Gln Leu Pro Arg Ala Val
 100

<210> SEQ ID NO 23
 <211> LENGTH: 112
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 23

Pro Asn Val Cys Trp	Ala Lys Ala Leu Glu	Pro Ile Leu Ala Thr	Ala
1	5	10	15

Gly Ile Val Leu Thr Gly	Cys Gln Trp Ser Glu	Leu Phe Pro Gln Phe	
20	25	30	

Ala Asp Asp Lys Pro His	Ser Ala Ile Tyr Ala	Leu Asp Val Ile Cys	
35	40	45	

Ile Lys Phe Phe Gly Met	Asp Leu Thr Ser Gly	Leu Phe Ser Lys Gln	
50	55	60	

Ser Ile Pro Leu Thr Tyr	His Pro Ala Asp Ser	Ala Arg Pro Val Ala	
65	70	75	80

His Trp Asp Asn Ser Pro	Gly Thr Arg Lys Tyr	Gly Tyr Asp His Ala	
85	90	95	

Ile Ala Ala Glu Leu Ser	Arg Arg Phe Pro Val	Phe Gln Leu Ala Gly	
100	105	110	

<210> SEQ ID NO 24
 <211> LENGTH: 104
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Eastern equine encephalitis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 24

Pro Asn Val Cys Trp	Ala Lys Ala Leu Glu	Pro Val Leu Ala Thr	Ala
1	5	10	15

Asn Ile Thr Leu Thr Arg	Ser Gln Trp Glu Thr	Ile Pro Ala Phe Lys	
20	25	30	

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Asp Asp Lys Ala Tyr Ser Pro Glu Met Ala Leu Asn Phe Phe Cys Thr
 35 40 45

Arg Phe Phe Gly Val Asp Ile Asp Ser Gly Leu Phe Ser Ala Pro Thr
 50 55 60

Val Pro Leu Ser Tyr Thr Asn Glu His Trp Asp Asn Ser Pro Gly Pro
 65 70 75 80

Asn Met Tyr Gly Leu Cys Met Arg Asn Ala Lys Glu Ile Ala Arg Arg
 85 90 95

Tyr Pro Gln Ile Leu Lys Ala Val
 100

<210> SEQ ID NO 25
 <211> LENGTH: 110
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: consensus sequence
 <221> NAME/KEY: VARIANT
 <222> LOCATION: (1)...(110)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa = Any Amino Acid
 <221> NAME/KEY: VARIANT
 <222> LOCATION: (1)...(110)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa = Any Amino Acid

<400> SEQUENCE: 25

Pro Asn Val Cys Trp Ala Lys Ala Leu Val Pro Val Leu Ala Thr Ala
 1 5 10 15

Gly Ile Xaa Ile Thr Ala Glu Gln Trp Ser Xaa Thr Ile Pro Ala Phe
 20 25 30

Lys Asp Asp Lys Ala His Ser Pro Glu Ile Ala Leu Asn Xaa Ile Cys
 35 40 45

Thr Lys Phe Phe Gly Val Asp Ile Asp Ser Gly Leu Phe Ser Ala Pro
 50 55 60

Thr Val Pro Leu Ser Tyr Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Asn Asn His Trp
 65 70 75 80

Asp Asn Ser Pro Gly Pro Arg Met Tyr Gly Leu Asn Xaa Ala Ile Ala
 85 90 95

Ala Glu Ile Ser Arg Arg Tyr Pro Xaa Leu Xaa Lys Ala Val
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 26
 <211> LENGTH: 113
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Semliki Forest virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 26

Pro Ser Val Leu Asp Asn Val Ile Pro Ile Asn Arg Arg Leu Pro His
 1 5 10 15

Ala Leu Val Ala Glu Tyr Lys Thr Val Lys Gly Ser Arg Val Glu Trp
 20 25 30

Leu Val Asn Lys Val Arg Gly Tyr His Val Leu Leu Val Ser Glu Tyr
 35 40 45

Asn Leu Ala Leu Pro Arg Arg Arg Val Thr Trp Leu Ser Pro Leu Asn
 50 55 60

Val Val Thr Gly Ala Asp Arg Cys Tyr Asp Leu Ser Leu Gly Leu Pro
 65 70 75 80

Ala Asp Ala Gly Arg Phe Asp Leu Val Phe Val Asn Ile His Thr Glu
 85 90 95

Phe Arg Ile His His Tyr Gln Gln Cys Val Asp His Ala Met Lys Leu

-continued

100 105 110

Gln

<210> SEQ ID NO 27
 <211> LENGTH: 109
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: chimeric nsp2

<400> SEQUENCE: 27

Pro Asp Pro Arg Ile Asn Leu Val Pro Val Asn Arg Arg Leu Pro His
 1 5 10 15

Ala Leu Val Leu His His Asn Glu His Pro Gln Ser Asp Phe Ser Ser
 20 25 30

Phe Val Ser Lys Leu Lys Gly Arg Thr Val Leu Val Val Gly Glu Lys
 35 40 45

Leu Ser Val Pro Gly Lys Met Val Asp Trp Leu Ser Asp Arg Pro Glu
 50 55 60

Ala Thr Phe Arg Ala Arg Leu Asp Leu Gly Ile Pro Gly Asp Val Pro
 65 70 75 80

Lys Tyr Asp Ile Ile Phe Val Asn Val Arg Thr Pro Tyr Lys Tyr His
 85 90 95

His Tyr Gln Gln Cys Glu Asp His Ala Ile Lys Leu Ser
 100 105

<210> SEQ ID NO 28
 <211> LENGTH: 111
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 28

Pro Ser Ala Gln His Asn Leu Val Pro Val Asn Arg Asn Leu Pro His
 1 5 10 15

Ala Leu Val Pro Glu Tyr Lys Glu Lys Gln Pro Gly Pro Val Lys Lys
 20 25 30

Phe Leu Asn Gln Phe Lys His His Ser Val Leu Val Val Ser Glu Glu
 35 40 45

Lys Ile Glu Ala Pro Arg Lys Arg Ile Glu Trp Ile Ala Pro Ile Gly
 50 55 60

Ile Ala Gly Ala Asp Lys Asn Tyr Asn Leu Ala Phe Gly Phe Pro Pro
 65 70 75 80

Gln Ala Arg Tyr Asp Leu Val Phe Ile Asn Ile Gly Thr Lys Tyr Arg
 85 90 95

Asn His His Phe Gln Gln Cys Glu Asp His Ala Ala Thr Leu Lys
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 29
 <211> LENGTH: 109
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Eastern equine encephalitis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 29

Pro Asn Pro Leu Ile Asn Val Val Pro Leu Asn Arg Arg Leu Pro His
 1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Val Val Thr Gln Arg Tyr Thr Gly Asn Gly Asp Tyr Ser Gln
 20 25 30

Leu Val Thr Lys Met Thr Gly Lys Thr Val Leu Val Val Gly Thr Pro

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35	40	45
Met Asn Ile Pro Gly Lys Arg Val Glu Thr Leu Gly Gln Ser Pro Gln		
50	55	60
Cys Thr Tyr Lys Ala Glu Leu Asp Leu Gly Ile Pro Ala Ala Leu Gly		
65	70	75
Lys Tyr Asp Ile Ile Phe Ile Asn Val Arg Thr Pro Tyr Arg His His		
85	90	95
His Tyr Gln Gln Cys Glu Asp His Ala Ile His His Ser		
100	105	

<210> SEQ ID NO 30
 <211> LENGTH: 112
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: consensus sequence
 <221> NAME/KEY: VARIANT
 <222> LOCATION: (1)...(112)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa = Any Amino Acid
 <221> NAME/KEY: VARIANT
 <222> LOCATION: (1)...(112)
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Xaa = Any Amino Acid

<400> SEQUENCE: 30

Pro Ser Pro Leu Ile Asn Leu Val Pro Val Asn Arg Arg Leu Pro His		
1	5	10
Ala Leu Val Leu Glu Tyr Lys Glu Xaa Xaa Asn Ser Asp Val Ser Xaa		
20	25	30
Leu Val Asn Lys Leu Lys Gly Arg Thr Val Leu Val Val Ser Glu Glu		
35	40	45
Lys Leu Ala Ile Pro Arg Lys Arg Val Glu Trp Leu Ser Pro Ile Xaa		
50	55	60
Ile Pro Gly Ala Thr Arg Lys Tyr Asp Leu Asp Leu Gly Ile Pro Ala		
65	70	75
Asp Leu Gly Lys Tyr Asp Ile Ile Phe Ile Asn Ile Arg Thr Pro Tyr		
85	90	95
Arg His His His Tyr Gln Gln Cys Glu Asp His Ala Ile Lys Leu Ser		
100	105	110

<210> SEQ ID NO 31
 <211> LENGTH: 110
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Semliki Forest virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 31

Pro His Tyr Gln Gln Cys Val Asp His Ala Met Lys Leu Gln Met Leu		
1	5	10
Gly Gly Asp Ala Ile Arg Leu Leu Lys Pro Gly Gly Ile Leu Met Arg		
20	25	30
Ala Tyr Gly Tyr Ala Asp Lys Ile Ser Glu Ala Val Val Ser Ser Leu		
35	40	45
Ser Arg Lys Phe Ser Ser Ala Arg Val Ile Arg Pro Asp Cys Val Thr		
50	55	60
Ser Asn Thr Glu Val Phe Leu Leu Phe Ser Asn Phe Asp Asn Gly Lys		
65	70	75
Arg Pro Ser Thr Leu His Gln Met Asn Thr Lys Leu Ser Ala Val Tyr		
85	90	95
Ala Gly Glu Ala Met His Thr Ala Gly Cys Ala Pro Ser Tyr		
100	105	110

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<210> SEQ ID NO 32
 <211> LENGTH: 111
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: chimeric nsp2

<400> SEQUENCE: 32

Pro His Tyr Gln Gln Cys Glu Asp His Ala Ile Lys Leu Ser Met Leu
 1 5 10 15
 Thr Lys Lys Ala Cys Leu His Leu Asn Pro Gly Gly Thr Cys Val Ser
 20 25 30
 Ile Gly Tyr Gly Tyr Ala Asp Arg Ala Ser Glu Ser Ile Ile Gly Ala
 35 40 45
 Ile Ala Arg Gln Phe Lys Phe Ser Arg Val Cys Lys Pro Lys Ser Ser
 50 55 60
 Leu Glu Glu Thr Glu Val Leu Phe Val Phe Ile Gly Tyr Asp Arg Lys
 65 70 75 80
 Ala Arg Thr His Asn Pro Tyr Lys Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Asn Ile
 85 90 95
 Tyr Thr Gly Ser Arg Leu His Glu Ala Gly Cys Ala Pro Ser Tyr
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 33
 <211> LENGTH: 111
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Sindbis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 33

Pro His Phe Gln Gln Cys Glu Asp His Ala Ala Thr Leu Lys Thr Leu
 1 5 10 15
 Ser Arg Ser Ala Ile Asn Cys Leu Asn Pro Gly Gly Thr Leu Val Val
 20 25 30
 Lys Ser Tyr Gly Tyr Ala Asp Arg Asn Ser Glu Asp Val Val Thr Ala
 35 40 45
 Leu Ala Arg Lys Phe Val Arg Val Ser Ala Ala Arg Pro Asp Cys Val
 50 55 60
 Ser Ser Asn Thr Glu Met Tyr Leu Ile Phe Arg Gln Leu Asp Asn Ser
 65 70 75 80
 Arg Thr Arg Gln Phe Thr Pro His His Leu Asn Cys Val Ile Ser Ser
 85 90 95
 Val Tyr Glu Gly Thr Arg Asp Gly Val Gly Ala Ala Pro Ser Tyr
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 34
 <211> LENGTH: 111
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Eastern equine encephalitis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 34

Pro His Tyr Gln Gln Cys Glu Asp His Ala Ile His His Ser Met Leu
 1 5 10 15
 Thr Arg Lys Ala Val Asp His Leu Asn Lys Gly Gly Thr Cys Ile Ala
 20 25 30
 Leu Gly Tyr Gly Thr Ala Asp Arg Ala Thr Glu Asn Ile Ile Ser Ala
 35 40 45
 Val Ala Arg Ser Phe Arg Phe Ser Arg Val Cys Gln Pro Lys Cys Ala

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Ala Leu Ala Met Glu Gly Lys Val Met Lys Pro Leu His Val Lys Gly
130 135 140

Thr Ile Asp His Pro Val Leu Ser Lys Leu Lys Phe Thr Lys Ser Ser
145 150 155 160

Ala Tyr Asp Met Glu Phe Ala Gln Leu Pro Val Asn Met Arg Ser Glu
165 170 175

Ala Phe Thr Tyr Thr Ser Glu His Pro Glu Gly Phe Tyr Asn Trp His
180 185 190

His Gly Ala Val Gln Tyr Ser Gly Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Pro Arg Gly
195 200 205

Val Gly Gly Arg Gly Asp Ser Gly Arg Pro Ile Met Asp Asn Ala Gly
210 215 220

Arg Val Val Ala Ile Val Leu Gly Gly Ala Asp Glu Gly Thr Arg Thr
225 230 235 240

Ala Leu Ser Val Val Thr Trp Asn Ser Lys Gly Lys Thr Ile Lys Thr
245 250 255

Ser Pro Glu Gly Thr Glu Glu Trp Ser Ala Ala Pro Leu Val Thr Ala
260 265 270

Met Cys Leu Leu Gly Asn Val Ser Phe Pro Cys Asn Arg Pro Pro Thr
275 280 285

Cys Tyr Thr Arg Glu Pro Ser Arg Ala Leu Asp Ile Leu Glu Glu Asn
290 295 300

Val Asn His Glu Asp Tyr Asp Thr Leu Leu Asp Ala Ile Leu Arg Cys
305 310 315 320

Asp Phe Ser Gly Arg Asn Lys Arg Ser Val Thr Gly Asp Phe Thr Leu
325 330 335

Thr Ser Pro Tyr Leu Gly Thr Cys Pro Tyr Cys His His Thr Glu Pro
340 345 350

Cys Phe Ser Pro Ile Lys Ile Glu Gln Val Trp Asp Glu Pro Asp Asp
355 360 365

Thr Thr Ile Arg Ile Gln Thr Ser Ala Gln Phe Gly Tyr Asp Gln Ser
370 375 380

Gly Ala Thr Ser Val Asn Lys Tyr Arg Tyr Met Ser Phe Asp Gln Asp
385 390 395 400

His Thr Val Lys Glu Gly Gln Met Asp Asp Ile Lys Ile Ser Thr Ser
405 410 415

Gly Pro Cys Arg Arg Leu Gly His Lys Gly Tyr Phe Leu Leu Ala Lys
420 425 430

Cys Pro Pro Gly Asp Ser Val Thr Val Ser Ile Val Ser Ser Ser Ser
435 440 445

Thr Thr Ser Cys Thr Leu Ala Arg Lys Ile Lys Pro Lys Phe Val Gly
450 455 460

Arg Glu Arg Tyr Asp Leu Pro Pro Val Tyr Gly Lys Asn Ile Pro Cys
465 470 475 480

Arg Met Tyr Asp Arg Leu Lys Glu Thr Ser Ala Gly Tyr Ile Thr Met
485 490 495

His Arg Pro Gly Pro His Ala Tyr Thr Ser Tyr Leu Glu Glu Ala Ser
500 505 510

Gly Lys Ile Tyr Ala Lys Pro Pro Ser Gly Lys Asn Ile Thr Tyr Glu
515 520 525

Cys Lys Cys Gly Asp Tyr Lys Thr Gly Thr Val Lys Thr Arg Thr Glu
530 535 540

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Ile	Thr	Gly	Cys	Thr	Ala	Ile	Lys	Gln	Cys	Val	Ala	Tyr	Lys	Ser	Asp	545	550	555	560
Gln	Thr	Lys	Trp	Val	Phe	Asn	Ser	Pro	Asp	Leu	Ile	Arg	His	Ala	Asp	565	570	575	
His	Ala	Ala	Gln	Gly	Lys	Leu	His	Leu	Pro	Phe	Arg	Leu	Val	Pro	Ser	580	585	590	
Ser	Cys	Lys	Val	Pro	Val	Ala	His	Ala	Pro	Ser	Val	Val	His	Gly	Phe	595	600	605	
Lys	His	Ile	Ser	Leu	Gln	Leu	Asp	Thr	Asp	His	Leu	Thr	Leu	Leu	Thr	610	615	620	
Thr	Arg	Arg	Leu	Gly	Ala	Asn	Pro	Glu	Pro	Thr	Ser	Glu	Trp	Ile	Ile	625	630	635	640
Gly	Lys	Thr	Val	Arg	Asn	Phe	Ser	Val	Gly	Arg	Asp	Gly	Leu	Glu	Tyr	645	650	655	
Thr	Trp	Gly	Asn	His	Asp	Pro	Val	Arg	Val	Tyr	Ala	Gln	Glu	Ser	Ala	660	665	670	
Pro	Gly	Asp	Pro	His	Gly	Trp	Pro	His	Glu	Ile	Ile	Gln	His	Tyr	Tyr	675	680	685	
His	Arg	His	Pro	Ala	Tyr	Thr	Ile	Leu	Thr	Val	Val	Ser	Ala	Ala	Val	690	695	700	
Ala	Val	Leu	Ile	Gly	Leu	Thr	Val	Ala	Ala	Leu	Cys	Thr	Cys	Lys	Ala	705	710	715	720
Arg	Arg	Glu	Cys	Leu	Thr	Pro	Tyr	Ala	Leu	Ala	Pro	Asn	Ala	Val	Val	725	730	735	
Pro	Thr	Ser	Ile	Ala	Leu	Leu	Cys	Cys	Ile	Arg	Ser	Ala	Asn	Ala	Glu	740	745	750	
Thr	Phe	Ser	Glu	Thr	Met	Ser	Tyr	Leu	Trp	Ser	Asn	Ser	Gln	Pro	Phe	755	760	765	
Phe	Trp	Ala	Gln	Leu	Cys	Ile	Pro	Leu	Ala	Ala	Val	Val	Ile	Leu	Val	770	775	780	
Arg	Cys	Cys	Ser	Cys	Cys	Leu	Pro	Phe	Leu	Val	Val	Ala	Gly	Val	Tyr	785	790	795	800
Leu	Gly	Lys	Val	Asp	Ala	Tyr	Glu	His	Ala	Thr	Thr	Ile	Pro	Asn	Val	805	810	815	
Pro	Lys	Ile	Pro	Tyr	Lys	Ala	Leu	Val	Glu	Arg	Ser	Gly	Tyr	Ala	Pro	820	825	830	
Leu	Asn	Leu	Glu	Ile	Thr	Val	Val	Ser	Ser	Gln	Val	Leu	Pro	Ser	Thr	835	840	845	
Asn	Gln	Glu	Tyr	Ile	Thr	Cys	Lys	Phe	Thr	Thr	Val	Val	Pro	Ser	Pro	850	855	860	
Lys	Val	Lys	Cys	Cys	Gly	Ser	Leu	Glu	Cys	Gln	Pro	Ala	Ala	His	Ala	865	870	875	880
Asp	Tyr	Asn	Cys	Lys	Val	Phe	Gly	Gly	Val	Tyr	Pro	Phe	Met	Trp	Gly	885	890	895	
Gly	Ala	Gln	Cys	Phe	Cys	Asp	Ser	Glu	Asn	Thr	Gln	Met	Ser	Glu	Ala	900	905	910	
Tyr	Val	Lys	Leu	Ser	Ala	Asp	Cys	Val	Thr	Asp	Tyr	Ala	Gln	Ala	Val	915	920	925	
Asn	Val	His	Thr	Ala	Ala	Met	Lys	Val	Gly	Leu	Arg	Ile	Val	Tyr	Gly	930	935	940	
Asn	Thr	Thr	Ser	Tyr	Leu	Asp	Val	Tyr	Val	Asn	Gly	Val	Thr	Pro	Gly	945	950	955	960
Thr	Ser	Lys	Asp	Leu	Lys	Val	Ile	Ala	Gly	Pro	Val	Ser	Ser	Ser	Phe				

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965				970				975							
Thr	Pro	Phe	Asn	His	Lys	Val	Val	Ile	Tyr	Arg	Gly	Leu	Val	Tyr	Asn
			980								985				990
Tyr	Asp	Phe	Pro	Glu	Tyr	Gly	Ala	Met	Lys	Pro	Gly	Val	Phe	Gly	Asp
		995					1000							1005	
Ile	Gln	Ala	Thr	Ser	Leu	Thr	Ser	Arg	Asp	Leu	Ile	Ala	Ser	Thr	Asp
		1010					1015							1020	
Ile	Arg	Leu	Leu	Lys	Pro	Ser	Val	Lys	Asn	Val	His	Val	Pro	Tyr	Thr
		1025					1030							1035	1040
Gln	Ala	Ala	Ser	Gly	Phe	Glu	Met	Trp	Lys	Asn	Asn	Ser	Gly	Arg	Pro
			1045											1055	
Leu	Gln	Glu	Thr	Ala	Pro	Phe	Gly	Cys	Lys	Ile	Ala	Val	Asn	Pro	Leu
			1060											1070	
Arg	Ala	Val	Asp	Cys	Ser	Tyr	Gly	Asn	Ile	Pro	Ile	Ser	Ile	Asp	Ile
			1075											1085	
Pro	Asn	Ala	Ala	Phe	Ile	Arg	Ile	Ser	Asp	Ala	Pro	Leu	Val	Ser	Thr
			1090				1095							1100	
Val	Lys	Cys	Glu	Val	Ser	Gly	Cys	Thr	Tyr	Ser	Ala	Asp	Phe	Gly	Gly
			1105				1110							1115	1120
Met	Ala	Thr	Leu	Gln	Tyr	Val	Ser	Asp	Arg	Glu	Gly	Gln	Cys	Pro	Val
			1125											1135	
His	Ser	His	Ser	Ser	Thr	Ala	Thr	Leu	Gln	Glu	Ser	Thr	Val	His	Val
			1140											1150	
Leu	Glu	Lys	Gly	Ala	Val	Thr	Val	His	Phe	Ser	Thr	Ala	Ser	Pro	Gln
			1155											1165	
Ala	Asn	Phe	Ile	Ile	Ser	Leu	Cys	Gly	Lys	Lys	Thr	Thr	Cys	Asn	Ala
			1170				1175							1180	
Glu	Cys	Lys	Pro	Pro	Ala	Asp	His	Ile	Val	Ser	Thr	Pro	His	Lys	Ile
			1185				1190							1195	1200
Asp	Gln	Glu	Phe	Gln	Thr	Ala	Ile	Ser	Lys	Thr	Ser	Trp	Ser	Trp	Leu
			1205											1215	
Leu	Ala	Leu	Phe	Gly	Gly	Ala	Ser	Ser	Leu	Leu	Ile	Ile	Gly	Leu	Met
			1220											1230	
Ile	Phe	Thr	Cys	Ser	Met	Leu	Leu	Thr	Ser	Thr	Arg	Arg			
			1235				1240							1245	

<210> SEQ ID NO 37

<211> LENGTH: 1254

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Semliki Forest virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 37

Pro	Met	Asn	Tyr	Ile	Pro	Thr	Gln	Thr	Phe	Tyr	Gly	Arg	Arg	Trp	Arg
	1			5					10					15	
Pro	Arg	Pro	Ala	Ala	Arg	Pro	Trp	Pro	Leu	Gln	Ala	Thr	Pro	Val	Ala
			20					25					30		
Pro	Val	Val	Pro	Asp	Phe	Gln	Ala	Gln	Gln	Met	Gln	Gln	Leu	Ile	Ser
			35				40					45			
Ala	Val	Asn	Ala	Leu	Thr	Met	Arg	Gln	Asn	Ala	Ile	Ala	Pro	Ala	Arg
			50				55					60			
Pro	Pro	Lys	Pro	Lys	Lys	Lys	Lys	Thr	Thr	Lys	Pro	Lys	Pro	Lys	Thr
	65				70					75					80
Gln	Pro	Lys	Lys	Ile	Asn	Gly	Lys	Thr	Gln	Gln	Gln	Lys	Lys	Lys	Asp
				85					90						95

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Lys Gln Ala Asp Lys Lys Lys Lys Lys Pro Gly Lys Arg Glu Arg Met
 100 105 110
 Cys Met Lys Ile Glu Asn Asp Cys Ile Phe Glu Val Lys His Glu Gly
 115 120 125
 Lys Val Thr Gly Tyr Ala Cys Leu Val Gly Asp Lys Val Met Lys Pro
 130 135 140
 Ala His Val Lys Gly Val Ile Asp Asn Ala Asp Leu Ala Lys Leu Ala
 145 150 155 160
 Phe Lys Lys Ser Ser Lys Tyr Asp Leu Glu Cys Ala Gln Ile Pro Val
 165 170 175
 His Met Arg Ser Asp Ala Ser Lys Tyr Thr His Glu Lys Pro Glu Gly
 180 185 190
 His Tyr Asn Trp His His Gly Ala Val Gln Tyr Ser Gly Gly Arg Phe
 195 200 205
 Thr Ile Pro Thr Gly Ala Gly Lys Pro Gly Asp Ser Gly Arg Pro Ile
 210 215 220
 Phe Asp Asn Lys Gly Arg Val Val Ala Ile Val Leu Gly Gly Ala Asn
 225 230 235 240
 Glu Gly Ser Arg Thr Ala Leu Ser Val Val Thr Trp Asn Lys Asp Met
 245 250 255
 Val Thr Arg Val Thr Pro Glu Gly Ser Glu Glu Trp Ser Ala Pro Leu
 260 265 270
 Ile Thr Ala Met Cys Val Leu Ala Asn Ala Thr Phe Pro Cys Phe Gln
 275 280 285
 Pro Pro Cys Val Pro Cys Cys Tyr Glu Asn Asn Ala Glu Ala Thr Leu
 290 295 300
 Arg Met Leu Glu Asp Asn Val Asp Arg Pro Gly Tyr Tyr Asp Leu Leu
 305 310 315 320
 Gln Ala Ala Leu Thr Cys Arg Asn Gly Thr Arg His Arg Arg Ser Val
 325 330 335
 Ser Gln His Phe Asn Val Tyr Lys Ala Thr Arg Pro Tyr Ile Ala Tyr
 340 345 350
 Cys Ala Asp Cys Gly Ala Gly His Ser Cys His Ser Pro Val Ala Ile
 355 360 365
 Glu Ala Val Arg Ser Glu Ala Thr Asp Gly Met Leu Lys Ile Gln Phe
 370 375 380
 Ser Ala Gln Ile Gly Ile Asp Lys Ser Asp Asn His Asp Tyr Thr Lys
 385 390 395 400
 Ile Arg Tyr Ala Asp Gly His Ala Ile Glu Asn Ala Val Arg Ser Ser
 405 410 415
 Leu Lys Val Ala Thr Ser Gly Asp Cys Phe Val His Gly Thr Met Gly
 420 425 430
 His Phe Ile Leu Ala Lys Cys Pro Pro Gly Glu Phe Leu Gln Val Ser
 435 440 445
 Ile Gln Asp Thr Arg Asn Ala Val Arg Ala Cys Arg Ile Gln Tyr His
 450 455 460
 His Asp Pro Gln Pro Val Gly Arg Glu Lys Phe Thr Ile Arg Pro His
 465 470 475 480
 Tyr Gly Lys Glu Ile Pro Cys Thr Thr Tyr Gln Gln Thr Thr Ala Glu
 485 490 495
 Thr Val Glu Glu Ile Asp Met His Met Pro Pro Asp Thr Pro Asp Arg
 500 505 510
 Thr Leu Leu Ser Gln Gln Ser Gly Asn Val Lys Ile Thr Val Gly Gly

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515				520				525							
Lys	Lys	Val	Lys	Tyr	Asn	Cys	Thr	Cys	Gly	Thr	Gly	Asn	Val	Gly	Thr
530						535					540				
Thr	Asn	Ser	Asp	Met	Thr	Ile	Asn	Thr	Cys	Leu	Ile	Glu	Gln	Cys	His
545				550						555					560
Val	Ser	Val	Thr	Asp	His	Lys	Lys	Trp	Gln	Phe	Asn	Ser	Pro	Phe	Val
				565					570					575	
Pro	Arg	Ala	Asp	Glu	Pro	Ala	Arg	Lys	Gly	Lys	Val	His	Ile	Pro	Phe
			580					585					590		
Pro	Leu	Asp	Asn	Ile	Thr	Cys	Arg	Val	Pro	Met	Ala	Arg	Glu	Pro	Thr
		595					600					605			
Val	Ile	His	Gly	Lys	Arg	Glu	Val	Thr	Leu	His	Leu	His	Pro	Asp	His
610						615					620				
Pro	Thr	Leu	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Arg	Thr	Leu	Gly	Glu	Asp	Pro	Gln	Tyr	His
625					630					635					640
Glu	Glu	Trp	Val	Thr	Ala	Ala	Val	Glu	Arg	Thr	Ile	Pro	Val	Pro	Val
				645					650					655	
Asp	Gly	Met	Glu	Tyr	His	Trp	Gly	Asn	Asn	Asp	Pro	Val	Arg	Leu	Trp
			660					665					670		
Ser	Gln	Leu	Thr	Thr	Glu	Gly	Lys	Pro	His	Gly	Trp	Pro	His	Gln	Ile
		675					680					685			
Val	Gln	Tyr	Tyr	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Tyr	Pro	Ala	Ala	Thr	Val	Ser	Ala	Val
		690				695					700				
Val	Gly	Met	Ser	Leu	Leu	Ala	Leu	Ile	Ser	Ile	Phe	Ala	Ser	Cys	Tyr
705						710				715					720
Met	Leu	Val	Ala	Ala	Arg	Ser	Lys	Cys	Leu	Thr	Pro	Tyr	Ala	Leu	Thr
			725						730					735	
Pro	Gly	Ala	Ala	Val	Pro	Trp	Thr	Leu	Gly	Ile	Leu	Cys	Cys	Ala	Pro
			740					745					750		
Arg	Ala	His	Ala	Ala	Ser	Val	Ala	Glu	Thr	Met	Ala	Tyr	Leu	Trp	Asp
		755					760					765			
Gln	Asn	Gln	Ala	Leu	Phe	Trp	Leu	Glu	Phe	Ala	Ala	Pro	Val	Ala	Cys
		770				775					780				
Ile	Leu	Ile	Ile	Thr	Tyr	Cys	Leu	Arg	Asn	Val	Leu	Cys	Cys	Cys	Lys
785					790					795					800
Ser	Leu	Ser	Phe	Leu	Val	Leu	Leu	Ser	Leu	Gly	Ala	Thr	Ala	Arg	Ala
			805						810					815	
Tyr	Glu	His	Ser	Thr	Val	Met	Pro	Asn	Val	Val	Gly	Phe	Pro	Tyr	Lys
			820					825					830		
Ala	His	Ile	Glu	Arg	Pro	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Pro	Leu	Thr	Leu	Gln	Met	Gln
		835					840					845			
Val	Val	Glu	Thr	Ser	Leu	Glu	Pro	Thr	Leu	Asn	Leu	Glu	Tyr	Ile	Thr
		850				855					860				
Cys	Glu	Tyr	Lys	Thr	Val	Val	Pro	Ser	Pro	Tyr	Val	Lys	Cys	Cys	Gly
865						870				875					880
Ala	Ser	Glu	Cys	Ser	Thr	Lys	Glu	Lys	Pro	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Cys	Lys	Val
			885						890					895	
Tyr	Thr	Gly	Val	Tyr	Pro	Phe	Met	Trp	Gly	Gly	Ala	Tyr	Cys	Phe	Cys
			900						905					910	
Asp	Ser	Glu	Asn	Thr	Gln	Leu	Ser	Glu	Ala	Tyr	Val	Asp	Arg	Ser	Asp
		915					920					925			
Val	Cys	Arg	His	Asp	His	Ala	Ser	Ala	Tyr	Lys	Ala	His	Thr	Ala	Ser
			930			935					940				

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Leu Lys Ala Lys Val Arg Val Met Tyr Gly Asn Val Asn Gln Thr Val
 945 950 955 960
 Asp Val Tyr Val Asn Gly Asp His Ala Val Thr Ile Gly Gly Thr Gln
 965 970 975
 Phe Ile Phe Gly Pro Leu Ser Ser Ala Trp Thr Pro Phe Asp Asn Lys
 980 985 990
 Ile Val Val Tyr Lys Asp Glu Val Phe Asn Gln Asp Phe Pro Pro Tyr
 995 1000 1005
 Gly Ser Gly Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Gly Asp Ile Gln Ser Arg Thr Val
 1010 1015 1020
 Glu Ser Asn Asp Leu Tyr Ala Asn Thr Ala Leu Lys Leu Ala Arg Pro
 1025 1030 1035 1040
 Ser Pro Gly Met Val His Val Pro Tyr Thr Gln Thr Pro Ser Gly Phe
 1045 1050 1055
 Lys Tyr Trp Leu Lys Glu Lys Gly Thr Ala Leu Asn Thr Lys Ala Pro
 1060 1065 1070
 Phe Gly Cys Gln Ile Lys Thr Asn Pro Val Arg Ala Met Asn Cys Ala
 1075 1080 1085
 Val Gly Asn Ile Pro Val Ser Met Asn Leu Pro Asp Ser Ala Phe Thr
 1090 1095 1100
 Arg Ile Val Glu Ala Pro Thr Ile Ile Asp Leu Thr Cys Thr Val Ala
 1105 1110 1115 1120
 Thr Cys Thr His Ser Ser Asp Phe Gly Gly Val Leu Thr Leu Thr Tyr
 1125 1130 1135
 Lys Thr Asn Lys Asn Gly Asp Cys Ser Val His Ser His Ser Asn Val
 1140 1145 1150
 Ala Thr Leu Gln Glu Ala Thr Ala Lys Val Lys Thr Ala Gly Lys Val
 1155 1160 1165
 Thr Leu His Phe Ser Thr Ala Ser Ala Ser Pro Ser Phe Val Val Ser
 1170 1175 1180
 Leu Cys Ser Ala Arg Ala Thr Cys Ser Ala Ser Cys Glu Pro Pro Lys
 1185 1190 1195 1200
 Asp His Ile Val Pro Tyr Ala Ala Ser His Ser Asn Val Val Phe Pro
 1205 1210 1215
 Asp Met Ser Gly Thr Ala Leu Ser Trp Val Gln Lys Ile Ser Gly Gly
 1220 1225 1230
 Leu Gly Ala Phe Ala Ile Gly Ala Ile Leu Val Leu Val Val Val Thr
 1235 1240 1245
 Cys Ile Gly Leu Arg Arg
 1250

<210> SEQ ID NO 38

<211> LENGTH: 1255

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus

<400> SEQUENCE: 38

Pro Met Phe Pro Tyr Gln Pro Ser Met Tyr Pro Met Gln Pro Ala Pro
 1 5 10 15
 Tyr Arg Pro Tyr Pro Ala Pro Arg Arg Pro Trp Tyr Pro Arg Thr Asp
 20 25 30
 Pro Phe Leu Ala Leu Gln Val Gln Glu Leu Ala Arg Ser Met Ala Asn
 35 40 45
 Leu Thr Phe Lys Gln Arg Arg Glu Ser Pro Pro Glu Gly Pro Pro Ala

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Gly Thr Asp His Pro Cys Arg Val Tyr Ala His Asp Ala Gln Lys Arg
 485 490 495

Gly Ala Tyr Val Glu Met His Leu Pro Gly Ser Glu Val Asp Ser Thr
 500 505 510

Leu Leu Ser Met Ser Gly Gly Ala Val Gln Val Asn Pro Pro Ala Gly
 515 520 525

Thr Asn Val Leu Val Glu Cys Asn Cys Gly Thr Gln Ile Ser Glu Thr
 530 535 540

Val Ser Thr Val Lys Lys Phe Asn Gln Cys Thr Gln Thr Asn Arg Cys
 545 550 555 560

Arg Ala Tyr Arg Leu Gln Ser Asp Lys Trp Val Phe Asn Ser Asp Lys
 565 570 575

Leu Pro Lys Ala Ser Gly Asp Thr Leu Lys Gly Lys Leu His Val Pro
 580 585 590

Phe Leu Leu Ser Glu Ala Lys Cys Thr Val Pro Leu Ala Pro Glu Pro
 595 600 605

Val Val Ser Phe Gly Phe Arg Ser Val Ser Leu Lys Leu His Pro Asn
 610 615 620

Asn Pro Thr Tyr Leu Thr Thr Arg His Leu Gly Gly Glu Pro Gln Tyr
 625 630 635 640

Thr His Glu Leu Ile Ser Glu Pro Val Val Lys Asn Phe Ser Ile Thr
 645 650 655

Glu Lys Gly Trp Glu Phe Val Trp Gly Asn His Pro Pro Gln Arg Phe
 660 665 670

Trp Ala Gln Glu Thr Ala Pro Gly Asn Pro His Gly Met Pro His Glu
 675 680 685

Ile Val Thr His Tyr Tyr Tyr Arg Tyr Pro Met Ser Thr Val Val Gly
 690 695 700

Leu Ser Ile Cys Ala Ala Ile Val Ile Ile Ser Ile Ala Ala Ser Leu
 705 710 715 720

Cys Leu Leu Cys Lys Ser Arg Val Ser Cys Leu Thr Pro Tyr Arg Leu
 725 730 735

Thr Pro Asn Ala Arg Leu Pro Ile Cys Leu Ala Leu Leu Cys Cys Ala
 740 745 750

Arg Pro Thr Arg Ala Glu Thr Thr Trp Glu Thr Leu Asp His Leu Trp
 755 760 765

Asn Asn Asn Gln Gln Met Phe Trp Leu Gln Leu Leu Ile Pro Leu Ala
 770 775 780

Ala Leu Ile Val Ile Thr Arg Ile Leu Lys Cys Val Cys Cys Phe Val
 785 790 795 800

Pro Phe Leu Val Leu Ala Gly Ala Ala Gly Ala Gly Ala Tyr Glu His
 805 810 815

Ala Thr Thr Met Pro Ser Gln Val Gly Ile Pro Phe Asn Thr Ile Val
 820 825 830

Asn Arg Ala Gly Tyr Ala Pro Leu Ala Ile Ser Ile Thr Pro Thr Lys
 835 840 845

Ile Gln Ile Ile Pro Thr Leu Asn Leu Glu Tyr Ile Thr Cys His Tyr
 850 855 860

Lys Thr Gly Leu Asp Ser Pro Ala Val Lys Cys Cys Gly Thr Gln Glu
 865 870 875 880

Cys Ser Glu Val Thr Arg Pro Asp Glu Lys Cys Lys Val Phe Thr Gly
 885 890 895

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Asn Pro Met Ala Tyr Arg Asp Pro Asn Pro Pro Arg Arg Arg Trp Arg
 20 25 30
 Pro Phe Arg Pro Pro Leu Ala Ala Gln Ile Glu Asp Leu Arg Arg Ser
 35 40 45
 Ile Ala Asn Leu Thr Leu Lys Gln Arg Ala Pro Asn Pro Pro Ala Gly
 50 55 60
 Pro Pro Ala Lys Arg Lys Lys Pro Ala Pro Ser Leu Ser Leu Arg Arg
 65 70 75 80
 Lys Lys Lys Arg Pro Pro Pro Pro Ala Lys Lys Gln Lys Arg Lys Pro
 85 90 95
 Lys Pro Gly Lys Arg Gln Arg Met Cys Met Lys Leu Glu Ser Asp Lys
 100 105 110
 Thr Phe Pro Ile Met Leu Asn Gly Gln Val Asn Gly Tyr Ala Cys Val
 115 120 125
 Val Gly Gly Arg Val Phe Lys Pro Leu His Val Glu Gly Arg Ile Asp
 130 135 140
 Asn Glu Gln Leu Ala Ala Ile Lys Leu Lys Lys Ala Ser Ile Tyr Asp
 145 150 155 160
 Leu Glu Tyr Gly Asp Val Pro Gln Cys Met Lys Ser Asp Thr Leu Gln
 165 170 175
 Tyr Thr Ser Asp Lys Pro Pro Gly Phe Tyr Asn Trp His His Gly Ala
 180 185 190
 Val Gln Tyr Glu Asn Asn Arg Phe Thr Val Pro Arg Gly Val Gly Gly
 195 200 205
 Lys Gly Asp Ser Gly Arg Pro Ile Leu Asp Asn Lys Gly Arg Val Val
 210 215 220
 Ala Ile Val Leu Gly Gly Val Asn Glu Gly Ser Arg Thr Ala Leu Ser
 225 230 235 240
 Val Val Thr Trp Asn Gln Lys Gly Val Thr Val Lys Asp Thr Pro Glu
 245 250 255
 Gly Ser Glu Pro Trp Ser Leu Ala Thr Val Met Cys Val Leu Ala Asn
 260 265 270
 Ile Thr Phe Pro Cys Asp Gln Pro Pro Cys Met Pro Cys Cys Tyr Glu
 275 280 285
 Lys Asn Pro His Glu Thr Leu Thr Met Leu Glu Gln Asn Tyr Asp Ser
 290 295 300
 Arg Ala Tyr Asp Gln Leu Leu Asp Ala Ala Val Lys Cys Asn Ala Arg
 305 310 315 320
 Arg Thr Arg Arg Asp Leu Asp Thr His Phe Thr Gln Tyr Lys Leu Ala
 325 330 335
 Arg Pro Tyr Ile Ala Asp Cys Pro Asn Cys Gly His Ser Arg Cys Asp
 340 345 350
 Ser Pro Ile Ala Ile Glu Glu Val Arg Gly Asp Ala His Ala Gly Val
 355 360 365
 Ile Arg Ile Gln Thr Ser Ala Met Phe Gly Leu Lys Thr Asp Gly Val
 370 375 380
 Asp Leu Ala Tyr Met Ser Phe Met Asn Gly Lys Thr Gln Lys Ser Ile
 385 390 395 400
 Lys Ile Asp Asn Leu His Val Arg Thr Ser Ala Pro Cys Ser Leu Val
 405 410 415
 Ser His His Gly Tyr Tyr Ile Leu Ala Gln Cys Pro Pro Gly Asp Thr
 420 425 430

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Val	Thr	Val	Gly	Phe	His	Asp	Gly	Pro	Asn	Arg	His	Thr	Cys	Thr	Val
		435					440					445			
Ala	His	Lys	Val	Glu	Phe	Arg	Pro	Val	Gly	Arg	Glu	Lys	Tyr	Arg	His
	450					455					460				
Pro	Pro	Glu	His	Gly	Val	Glu	Leu	Pro	Cys	Asn	Arg	Tyr	Thr	His	Lys
465					470					475					480
Arg	Ala	Asp	Gln	Gly	His	Tyr	Val	Glu	Met	His	Gln	Pro	Gly	Leu	Val
				485					490					495	
Ala	Asp	His	Ser	Leu	Leu	Ser	Ile	His	Ser	Ala	Lys	Val	Lys	Ile	Thr
			500					505					510		
Val	Pro	Ser	Gly	Ala	Gln	Val	Lys	Tyr	Tyr	Cys	Lys	Cys	Pro	Asp	Val
		515					520					525			
Arg	Glu	Gly	Thr	Thr	Ser	Ser	Asp	Tyr	Thr	Thr	Thr	Cys	Thr	Asp	Val
	530					535						540			
Lys	Gln	Cys	Arg	Ala	Tyr	Leu	Ile	Asp	Asn	Lys	Lys	Trp	Val	Tyr	Asn
545					550					555					560
Ser	Gly	Arg	Leu	Pro	Arg	Gly	Glu	Gly	Asp	Thr	Phe	Lys	Gly	Lys	Leu
				565					570					575	
His	Val	Pro	Phe	Val	Pro	Val	Lys	Ala	Lys	Cys	Ile	Ala	Thr	Leu	Ala
			580					585					590		
Pro	Glu	Pro	Leu	Val	Glu	His	Lys	His	Arg	Thr	Leu	Ile	Leu	His	Leu
		595					600					605			
Tyr	Pro	Asp	His	Pro	Thr	Leu	Leu	Thr	Thr	Arg	Ser	Leu	Gly	Ser	Asp
	610					615					620				
Ala	Asn	Pro	Thr	Arg	Gln	Trp	Ile	Glu	Arg	Pro	Thr	Thr	Val	Asn	Phe
625					630					635					640
Thr	Val	Thr	Gly	Glu	Gly	Leu	Glu	Tyr	Thr	Trp	Gly	Asn	His	Pro	Pro
				645					650					655	
Lys	Arg	Val	Trp	Ala	Gln	Glu	Ser	Gly	Glu	Gly	Asn	Pro	His	Gly	Trp
		660						665					670		
Pro	His	Glu	Val	Val	Val	Tyr	Tyr	Tyr	Asn	Arg	Tyr	Pro	Leu	Thr	Thr
		675					680					685			
Ile	Ile	Gly	Leu	Cys	Thr	Cys	Val	Ala	Ile	Ile	Met	Val	Ser	Cys	Val
	690					695					700				
Thr	Ser	Val	Trp	Leu	Leu	Cys	Arg	Thr	Arg	Asn	Leu	Cys	Ile	Thr	Pro
705					710					715					720
Tyr	Lys	Leu	Ala	Pro	Asn	Ala	Gln	Val	Pro	Ile	Leu	Leu	Ala	Leu	Leu
				725					730					735	
Cys	Cys	Ile	Lys	Pro	Thr	Arg	Ala	Asp	Asp	Thr	Leu	Gln	Val	Leu	Asn
			740					745					750		
Tyr	Leu	Trp	Asn	Asn	Asn	Gln	Asn	Phe	Phe	Trp	Met	Gln	Thr	Leu	Ile
		755					760					765			
Pro	Leu	Ala	Ala	Leu	Ile	Val	Cys	Met	Arg	Met	Leu	Arg	Cys	Leu	Phe
	770					775					780				
Cys	Cys	Gly	Pro	Ala	Phe	Leu	Leu	Val	Cys	Gly	Ala	Leu	Gly	Ala	Ala
785					790					795					800
Ala	Tyr	Glu	His	Thr	Ala	Val	Met	Pro	Asn	Lys	Val	Gly	Ile	Pro	Tyr
				805					810					815	
Lys	Ala	Leu	Val	Glu	Arg	Pro	Gly	Tyr	Ala	Pro	Val	His	Leu	Gln	Ile
			820					825					830		
Gln	Leu	Val	Asn	Thr	Arg	Ile	Ile	Pro	Ser	Thr	Asn	Leu	Glu	Tyr	Ile
		835					840					845			
Thr	Cys	Lys	Tyr	Lys	Thr	Lys	Val	Pro	Ser	Pro	Val	Val	Lys	Cys	Cys

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The invention claimed is:

1. An RNA expression cassette comprising a first and second transcription unit, wherein:

(a) the first transcription unit comprises a first alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a first coding sequence which encodes a mutant capsid protein of a first alphavirus, but not a glycoprotein of the first alphavirus, wherein the mutant capsid protein has reduced autoproteolytic activity;

(b) the second transcription unit comprises a second alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a second coding sequence which encodes non-structural proteins 1-4 of a second alphavirus,

wherein the expression cassette enhances production of replicon particles while minimizing generation of replication competent viral particles (RCVs) when used in a suitable packaging cell line.

2. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein the first transcription unit is 5' to the second transcription unit.

3. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein the first transcription unit is 3' to the second transcription unit.

4. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein said first coding sequence encodes a hybrid capsid protein.

5. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein the mutation is selected from the group consisting of His141Ala, Asp147Ala, Asp163Ala, Ser215Ala, ΔHis141, ΔAsp147, ΔAsp163, ΔSer215, and ΔTrp264 and combinations thereof, numbered according to SEQ ID NO:1.

6. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second alphaviruses is a Sindbis virus.

7. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second alphaviruses is a Venezuelan equine encephalitis (VEE) virus.

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8. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second subgenomic promoters is a VEE subgenomic promoter, a Sindbis virus subgenomic promoter, an Eastern equine encephalitic (EEE) subgenomic promoter, or a Semliki Forest virus subgenomic promoter.

9. The expression cassette of claim 1 further comprising a selectable marker.

10. The expression cassette of claim 1 further comprising an internal ribosome entry site (IRES).

11. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein the first coding sequence comprises a sequence encoding SEQ ID NO:2.

12. The expression cassette of claim 1 wherein the second transcription unit comprises a mutation in at least one of R331 or R332 in Nsp4 numbered according to SEQ ID NO:9.

13. An isolated host cell comprising a first RNA expression cassette, wherein the first expression cassette comprises:

(a) a first transcription unit comprising a first alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a first coding sequence which encodes glycoprotein or a capsid protein, but not both, of a first alphavirus; and

(b) a second transcription unit comprising a second alphavirus subgenomic promoter operably linked to a second coding sequence which encodes non-structural proteins 1-4 of a second alphavirus,

wherein the host cell is adapted for large-scale production of replicon particles and has enhanced production of replicon particles while minimizing generation of replication competent viral particles (RCVS).

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